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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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DOS SANTOS ON ACHIEVEMENTS, MOBILIZATION EFFORTS

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish Jan 84 pp 14-16

[Interview with President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, by Eloy Concepcion; date and place not given]

[Text] Luanda--Reviewing eight years of independence in an African country like Angola means remembering both the successes as well as the difficulties that have had to be overcome to gain it.

One must recall the constant South African aggression, the destabilizing action of the UNITA and the propaganda campaign waged by enemies to try to weaken indispensable world solidarity.

The difficult path followed has been filled with dangers and traps, but it is above all the path chosen by a people tired of the colonial yoke, determined to govern its life and willing to admit and eradicate its errors.

In order to analyze the recent history of Angola, that country's president, Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, granted PRISMA an exclusive interview in which he viewed what has been done since 11 November 1975 and the current situation in that young republic, proud of its present and determined to win the future.

[Question] After 8 years of independence, what achievements have been gained by the People's Republic of Angola during that period?

[Answer] The main successes achieved by our people during these eight years of independence, marked by constant aggression by the racist regime of South Africa, are mainly political.

Our people, under the leadership of the MPLA-Labor Party, won back their rights and for the first time in our history, began to exercise political power conscientiously.

We therefore had to create a new system of government making the effective exercise of sovereignty by the popular masses, duly organized by the party, effective.

On the basis of the experience of the past, under the forms of political and administrative leadership during the period of the war for national liberation, we set up the People's Assembly and the provincial assemblies as organs of people's power, a process that will be completed with the establishment of the municipal and communal assemblies.

This right of participation in the management of the affairs of state and matters of political, economic, social life and other areas, eliminated by colonialism, is without a doubt our greatest achievement because it now enables us to be the master of our destiny.

We also have other accomplishments in the social, economic and cultural fields. Control of the country's main resources, such as oil, coffee and diamonds, the seizure and nationalization of economically and strategically important enterprises or those abandoned by their owners after independence, make it possible to guide the country's economy with an aim to meet the people's basic needs gradually.

In the social field, we attribute great value to measures leading to the nationalization of education and health, giving the people broad access to these two spheres. As an example, one might recall that in primary education, we now have 2 million pupils, nearly four times more than during the colonial period. We have also registered successes in sports, where our international results in different areas express the efforts we are making and the attention we give to this activity. Likewise, we are making progress in the cultural domain, an area in which our people are trying to reassert their identity.

However, it is obvious that a system such as our own, open to the solution of the most urgent problems of the masses, faces difficulties in rapidly reaching the goals set and with great success.

In addition to facing the heritage of the past and the difficulties of the first years of independence, we have to win an undeclared war of aggression in which the enemy's main targets are economic and the civilian population, in addition to the military.

This partially explains why our agricultural production of essential goods is still not adequate to meet national consumer needs, resulting in problems in the supplying of food to the population.

Regional Military Councils

[Question] I wish you would speak of the creation of the regional military councils (CMR).

[Answer] The creation of the regional military councils is the measure of the greatest political and military scope for eliminating the war imposed upon us and it was taken this year to commemorate the eighth anniversary of independence.

Faced with the escalation of the enemy's aggression, which following the occupation of Cunene Province in 1981, was an attempt to begin deep penetration of our territory by the regular South African forces, with the support of UNITA bands, the Standing Commission of the People's Assembly passed a law creating the regional military councils as the organ responsible for heading up all political-military, economic and social activities in the areas most affected by enemy action.

For the adoption of this law, we considered that the target of the South Africans and of the UNITA was to reach the most important zones, with the double intention of forcing the legitimate government of Angola to negotiate with the puppets and traitors and destroy the Angolan revolution, while also weakening or annihilating the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO), vanguard of the Namibian people.

This exceptional solution, which justifies the mobilization of material and human resources in the area, does not exclude or relegate to a secondary level the activity of the party, since the chairman of the regional military council is provincial party coordinator. The regional military council directs its daily activities based on party guidelines, always consolidating the ties existing between the MPLA-Labor Party and the people, the guarantee of victory over the South African invaders and their lackeys.

[Question] What do you consider has been and is the role of youth and Angolan women in the defense of their revolution?

[Answer] The problem of the defense of a revolution threatened by armed aggression is the problem of all the people because the people are the main beneficiary of the results of the political, economic and social transformations occurring in society.

The special attitude of our youth people and the Angolan woman toward the main tasks of the moment, including the defense of the homeland, is in perfect harmony with the decision made by the people to fight the enemy without rest so that the country will never again be under the yoke. Consequently, young people have been trained with enthusiasm and true patriotic sentiment in the armed forces in order to defend the conquests of the revolution on the front lines. Our women, organized in the Organization of Angolan Women (OMA), do important work, along with the young people, aimed at making all people aware of the urgency of defending the country. The results of this work have been satisfactory.

[Question] How do you view the Emergency Plan and what is its situation at present?

[Answer] The Emergency Plan was another great measure taken by our party that went into effect this year, concentrating attention on the key areas of the economy so as to face the grave situation the country has in this area because of the resources that have to be diverted to wage war, the economic crisis and the lack of trained personnel.

With the different emergency programs, a total of 13, making up the National Plan, we intend to concentrate our efforts on the key sectors of the economy, overcome its difficulties and move on to the country's financial recovery.

That is why the National Plan this year took on the nature of an Emergency Plan, bringing together all financial, material and human resources in order to have a successful application of the 13 programs included in it. The results of this effort will be evaluated. We can already say that the most tangible effects will be felt this year, since this is a new experiment in whose creation we exercised great care.

Certain programs are already in full swing, such as food production, coffee, basic health care, the supplying of defense and security forces and marketing in rural areas. Some are still being worked out because of their specific nature.

South African Aggression

[Question] In the face of South African aggression, backed by the United States, what steps are being taken internationally?

[Answer] Naturally, the People's Republic of Angola constantly denounces the situation of which it is the victim. In this sense, certain friendly countries have guaranteed solidarity with our people. Nevertheless, based on the extent of the aggression, the fact that we have part of our territory occupied and the marked violation of the most basic standards of coexistence between nations by the South African racists, we do not think that the reaction of the international community and especially of Western countries is in keeping with the gravity of the acts perpetrated.

There are still those who ignore the fact that the People's Republic of Angola has part of its territory occupied by the force of arms for the past two years and that the material damage since the beginning of the aggression now amounts to over \$10 billion.

In this situation, it is not impossible that certain nations enamored of peace and freedom because of the situation our country is going through because of the aggression will become more directly aware, for such aggression constitutes a challenge to the entire international community and a danger to peace in our region and throughout the African continent.

[Question] Concerning southern Africa and the South African escalation, how do you view Angola's situation at this time?

[Answer] At this time, South Africans continue to occupy a large part of southern Angola in Cunene Province and part of Kuando Kubango Province, where the UNITA armed bands, the armed branch of South Africa, continue to practice terror against the people.

[Answer] This situation is the result of an expansionist policy of South Africa, which intends to exercise its dominion in southern Africa in several directions: political, military and economic.

Not only is Angola in this situation. The same thing is happening in the Seychelles, Mozambique, Lesotho and even Zimbabwe, Zambia, and so on.

In Angola, we are drawing up our defense plans and in recent months, we have dealt hard blows to the enemy, the UNITA, trained, supplied and organized by South Africa.

One of these blows was dealt to the enemy in Canganba. Others were dealt in different zones of the national territory.

There is a great people's mobilization and an increasingly great incorporation of our young people, women, old people and children, into the defense of our revolution. At the present time, there are thousands of young people in the vanguard of this struggle. Thousands of women are in the rear guard, including military training, in order to support the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola]. Workers and students are willing to exchange their tools and books for arms when the situation so requires.

We are determined to face this struggle to defend our revolution and our country.

We have been backed by the determined support of the comrades in the socialist community. From the first moment when President Neto made his appeal, Cuba has been at our side in this difficult struggle to preserve our independence.

Imperialism and South Africa are trying to place this situation in southern Africa within the context of the so-called East-West conflict. We reject that idea because this fallacious argument is used to hide their real intentions. What they want to do is prevent Namibia from being independent. Namibia is a territory rich in raw materials and South Africa is also a territory rich in raw materials that supply the West. That is why imperialism wants to maintain the inhuman system of apartheid.

Consequently, this is not an East-West conflict. Rather, it is a liberation struggle of nations like Namibia that are fighting for their independence. The people of South Africa are fighting to win their freedoms, against racial oppression and all exploitation. We support that struggle. All the activity of South Africa is carried on with the support of imperialism, destabilizing Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho and other countries and, in the final analysis, it constitutes a kind of "buffer zone" for its interests in Namibia and South Africa.

Whence the defense of its policy of domination in Namibia and South Africa.

[Question] What is your opinion of the events in Grenada?

[Answer] For us, the events in Grenada, culminating in the murder of comrade Bishop, were a great surprise. We had maintained fraternal relations of friendship and solidarity with Bishop's party. This difficult situation which Grenada endured with Bishop's death, as the result of internal splits in the party, created the conditions allowing outside forces to stage a coup

against the people of Grenada. We do not believe there is any reason to explain such aggression because Grenada is independent, sovereign and has every right to solve its domestic problems by itself. That is why we condemn with the most profound indignation the invasion perpetrated by American imperialism in Grenada. Our Politburo made a statement in which we once again manifested our solidarity with the people of Grenada during these difficult times.

We see with great satisfaction the example of courage which the Cuban workers set once again, doing their duty and performing their internationalist mission entrusted to them by the party, the Communist Party of Cuba, and their great leader, comrade Fidel Castro, at the Grenada airport.

These courageous comrades waged an unequal struggle in which the forces of imperialism were superior. With courage, honor and great bravery, they faced the invasion by the United States of America. They made great sacrifices. Several workers were killed or wounded, but once more, the people of Cuba and their Communist Party were dignified and displayed their courage and self-sacrifice. These heroic workers fought to the last against a powerful trained and well-armed enemy, the regular forces of the United States.

We congratulate that nation for giving us one more example encouraging all those among us determined to continue the fight against imperialism.

11,464

CSO: 3448/7

ANGOLA

FAPLA MILITARY ACTION REPORTED IN VARIOUS PROVINCES

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 3 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] In its offensive against the puppet groups, in the last 2 weeks the Angolan Armed Forces [FAPLA] have conducted military operations culminating in the destruction of several bases and the recapture of war materiel.

On 22 February, the FAPLA killed 12 guerrillas as the latter were attempting an attack on the commune of Casal and the bridge of the same name, in Lunda Sul Province. On the same day, in an action against a bandit base located 30 kilometers from Cacolo, the government forces recovered a K-21 machine gun, hand grenades, 60mm mortar shells, G-3 cartridge clips and various documents.

In Huila Province, the FAPLA attacked a group of bandits in the area of Calussuma, 42 kilometers from Chicomba, killing 7 puppets and capturing 2, liberating 18 civilians and recovering arms and ammunition.

On 21 February, in a cleanup operation in Malajne Province, 337 civilians who had been under puppet control were liberated.

FAPLA action in Kuanza Sul and Benguela provinces resulted in 13 guerrilla casualties and the capture of a 60mm mortar, a G-3 weapon, 2 PC rocket launchers and 14 hand grenades.

Moxico: 85 Enemy Casualties

In the past few days, 3 operations conducted by the Angolan forces resulted in 85 guerrilla casualties, according to official sources contacted by the Angolan news agency ANGOP.

In the first of these operations, in the area of Luau Municipio, the bandits sustained 54 casualties and the government forces recovered 47 weapons of various types, a 60mm mortar, 79 cartridge clips, 27 shells, 4 grenades and 57 mines (INTERNATIONAL PRESS AGENCY)

Also in the area of Luau, along the rail line, 31 bandits were killed on 24 February. They left behind 9 "akm's" and 11,250 rounds of ammunition of various types.

Finally, on the same day, 14 kilometers from Lucasso, there was an attack against another group of bandits, who fled at the approach of the government forces, abandoning weapons and ammunition. It is noted that it was civilians who reported the presence of the bandits and requested assistance from the people's army to combat them.

6362

CS0: 3442/303

SPECIAL REPORT ON ELECTRIC POWER FAILURES, CAUSES

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 29 Feb 84 pp 1, 12

[Report by Victor Silva]

[Text] Luanda has recently been experiencing constant electric power outages, which have caused considerable harm. There have been many complaints by residents of damage caused to electric appliances by the sudden cutoffs and by the surge of power when service is restored.

In addition, Luanda is a particularly badly lighted city, although to someone flying in at night it appears all glowing with the little lights that can be seen from the sky, scattered all over the capital.

Yesterday we were at the main office of EDEL [Luanda Electric Power Distribution Company], attempting to discover the real reason for the power failures that have caused the public so much distress.

With reporters' luck, we arrived at a time when Engineer Mario Fontes, EDEL's technical director, happened to be at the company, although he was officially on vacation. Fontes and Engineer Francisco Meireles, chief of operations, are the two people directly involved with problems of power distribution in the capital.

In our meeting with Fontes and Meireles, we learned that the most recent outages had several causes, some of which could be discerned immediately and others only after some time had passed, which gave rise to many customer complaints.

Regarding the power failure day before yesterday, we were told that there were two short circuits caused by humidity in the terminal boxes located near the cooperants' store (formerly Paula de Carvalho).

Generally speaking, however, the city's power supply has several shortcomings, not only a shortage of equipment but also the lack of protection and even the age of the installations, which, as was noted yesterday, "need to be updated."

The two EDEL officials admitted that it is currently impossible to insure the quality of service that Luanda merits, basically for three reasons.

The first concerns physical shortcomings; the second is lack of manpower; and the third is the shortage of spare parts in stock.

In the opinion of engineers Fontes and Meireles, only if the company organization itself is improved and staffed with skilled manpower, and imports are resumed to replace depleted inventories, will it be possible to provide electric power more in keeping with the current needs of the capital city.

We learned that only the low-tension cable is produced domestically, but that CONDEL has not supplied EDEL for 2 years, which has caused many of the company's problems in restoring service promptly. The rest of the required material, all imported, has long since ceased to take up any room in the company warehouses, since the stocks, depleted from constant use, have not been replaced.

Hence, when the company servicemen are called to repair a breakdown, they are forced to improvise solutions, but this causes other more serious problems later on.

Quite frequently, connections which should be underground are uncovered, with the resulting danger that this implies. We were told that for lack of the metal boxes which should protect the junctions, the latter cannot be buried.

"Third Parties" Involved

Another reason indicated for the power failures is the uncontrolled excavation in all areas of the city, without the least notion of the damage which this excavation could cause.

"People do not bother to ask about any possible problems with excavation and quite often our lines are simply torn up," EDEL's technical director told us, adding that there are three underground distribution systems (power, telephone and water) and any excavation should be approved by the respective authorities.

For example, the situation in Boatize District, which is without light, water and telephone service, was caused by the bulldozing which was being done there following the heavy rains that fell on Luanda.

Sand removal has caused many problems, because various medium- and low-tension cables have been cut--"very precious material," in the words of the EDEL officials; it is not available domestically and has not been restocked, since it was assured that it would last for a while longer.

Problems with Service Crews

One of the matters discussed in our meeting yesterday was the service crews, which are one example of the company's shortcomings in general.

Special assistance has been given to the service sector so that it can meet its commitments. For example, there is an attempt to provide it with transportation, when this shortage is felt throughout the company, and with other equipment essential to the functioning of the crews. However, if the company manages

to supply a lantern to each member of the crews, which are made up of some of the best cadres available, the lanterns soon stop working for want of batteries.

At all events, with normal consumption, there would not be so many demands and the service crews could handle the job.

According to the EDEL directors, the hot season is considered the "peak period," because more power is consumed and consequently there are more breakdowns, which are often aggravated by the heavy rains that are typical of the season.

Oscillating Current in Alvalade

The Alvalade district has for some time been the "victim" of continuous oscillations in the power supply. There are even periods when these last more than a minute, which is considered excessive.

The directors say that this is because of consumer overload; in recent times, consumption has more than doubled because of the living standard of the people who have moved there, who have freezer chests, refrigerators and air conditioners.

The problem is no longer general. It has been localized because significant improvements to the system have been made in the district, although not sufficient to guarantee a normal supply.

New Lighting System for Ilha de Luanda

Engineers Fontes and Meireles made special mention of the total darkness on the Ilha de Luanda, one of the worst areas in terms of public illumination.

Although the difficulties mentioned above are partly responsible, it is also a fact that the large number of lamp posts which have been knocked down in recent years has considerably aggravated the problems with the already inadequate public lighting system.

This is felt most on the Ilha de Luanda, where an alarming number of posts have been knocked down (in themselves constituting foci of power failures), which has left the island completely in the dark.

However, EDEL plans to completely remodel the public lighting system in this island part of the city, principally the line that goes from the first roundabout (just before the Naval Headquarters) to Barracuda, using the median strip between the traffic lanes. The new lighting will not be installed until protection is assured for the posts, which generally should come with the installation of curbing (of the type used on highways to prevent a vehicle from crossing over from one side of the highway to the other).

EDEL admits it is unable to provide regular maintenance of the public lamp posts, both for want of lamp bulbs and for want of unskilled manpower. Here the power company officials added parenthetically that, ironic as it may seem, in a city which has an overpopulation of more than a half-million people, they have had difficulty hiring unskilled manpower--the simple laborers who dig the necessary

excavations in the urban zone of the city, where the entire system is underground.

They added that this is also one of the reasons why complaints are not attended to promptly. A hole that could be dug in 2 or 3 hours may take 2 or 3 days, and once it is dug, if there is an urgent call elsewhere, the hole may not be closed up again for want of the men to do it.

Consumers Blamed

Another factor contributing to the irregular power supply and faulty maintenance is that, any time there is a breakdown, the customers automatically become electricians, fooling with the boxes and changing the phases; sometimes a breakdown that could have been taken care of simply by replacing a fuse will then require an excavation and a major operation.

There is also the fact that there is no general monitor board for the system, which means that a breakdown often goes undetected if the consumers do not complain. For this reason, customers should report any loss of power to EDEL, because this is the only way the company will be aware of breakdowns outside the range of the two substations, which are continuously monitored.

Food also has something to do with the slow service in restoring power. According to the EDEL officials, it is very difficult to get good performance from crews which are working outside, subjected to the sun and rain and without any food to compensate for their efforts. For example, if a worker is out making a repair and he has not had breakfast or lunch, it is unlikely that he will go on working all afternoon.

Generators Not EDEL's Responsibility

We asked EDEL's technical directors about the maintenance of the generators installed in the various companies and institutions that require an uninterrupted power supply.

It was explained that this maintenance is solely the responsibility of the institutions and not of the distributor.

Engineer Mario Fontes said that for some time, in various articles and reports, the newspaper has been giving the idea that EDEL is responsible for the functioning of the generators, which is not the case; the consumers are aware that the distributor cannot guarantee a power supply 100 percent of the time and that they must maintain their own emergency generators. He cited the case of the Americo Boavida Hospital; when there is a power failure it is completely in the dark, and surgery has had to be completed by candle light.

This, then, is the electric power situation in the capital city.

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CS0: 3442/303

ANGOLA

BRIEFS

OFFSHORE OIL PRODUCTION--The petroleum discovery off the shore of northern Angola, which was announced last August by SONANGOL [National Angolan Fuel Company], has produced about 3,000 barrels per day during testing. SONANGOL announced at the time that the results of the tests would determine whether further studies would be needed to evaluate the importance of the oil discovery. A second test bore in "Packet 3" produced the same levels of petroleum as in the previous bore in the northern part of the area. That bore, to a depth of 87 meters of water, was about 6.5 kilometers away from "Packet 1," and confirmed the importance of the discovery. It is noted that in June 1983, the country recorded the highest monthly production since November 1974, reaching 190,000 barrels per day. Average production in the first 6 months of 1983 was on the order of 166,558 barrels per day, representing a 30-percent increase over the same period in 1982. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 27 Feb 84 p 12] 6362

CS0: 3442/303

OFFICIAL VISIT OF BADEA PRESIDENT DETAILED

Cotonou BENIN-PRESSE-INFORMATION in French No 325, 17 Feb 84 pp 14, 15

[Article: "Official Visit to Benin by the President of the Arab Development Bank"]

[Excerpts] Cotonou. The president of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), Dr Chedly Ayari, made an official visit to Benin from 13 to 15 February at the personal invitation of our great comrade in the struggle, President Mathieu Kerekou.

Outlining to the press the schedule of his visit of friendship and work in our country, Dr Ayari said he was happy to accept the invitation of the head of state and to be in a country which has always defended the just cause of the Arab countries.

The president of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa said that his visit to Benin would also make it possible for him, together with the Beninese authorities, to inspect the progress of the projects financed by BADEA and those which are already in production. Included are the Cotonou Independent Port, the renovation of which was partly financed by his institution, and the National Cement Company (SOMACI), followed by projects in progress such as the Nangbeto dam.

During his stay, Dr Chedly Ayari had the Cotonou Independent Port to visit, then had working sessions with several ministers. At the end of his three day visit, topped off with a dinner show given in his honor at the Sheraton hotel, a final communique was published. In particular, it said:

During his stay, Dr Chedly Ayari twice had an audience with the head of state.

During these audiences, the head of state and the president of BADEA made a general survey of cooperation between Benin and the Arab Development Bank. They took stock of projects already completed (National Cement Company dams (SOMACI)), and the expansion of the Cotonou Independent Port as well as new projects undertaken (Nangbeto dam and a survey of integrated rural development in Oueme).

President Kerekou and Dr Chedly expressed their satisfaction with the excellent standard of this cooperation and reaffirmed their determination to strengthen it even further.

The two speakers had also, on the one hand, to analyze the repercussions of the economic crisis on the Beninese economy and, on the other, the effects of the drought which prevails in several African countries, making their situation even more extreme because of the growing scarcity of water holes and the resulting drop in agricultural production.

After this analysis, they agreed on the necessity of proceeding with a diagnostic analysis of the Beninese economy to be able to determine its strengths and weaknesses accurately.

Finally, the two speakers dealt with the subject of Arab-African cooperation, that he [sic] would like to see reinforced during a second Arab-African summit.

During a working session, the president of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) also had talks with several members of the National Executive Council, particularly:

- the minister of Planning, Statistics, and Economic Analysis;
- the minister of Industry, Mines, and Energy;
- the minister of Finance.

A ministerial working session at the Ministry of Planning, Statistics and Economic Analysis on Tuesday 14 February 1984 brought together, besides the minister of planning, statistics, and economic analysis, the minister of industry, mines, and energy, the minister of transport and communications, the minister of finance, the minister of rural development and cooperative action, the minister of public works, construction and housing, the minister of state farms, stockbreeding and fisheries, the minister of public and semipublic enterprises, and the minister of commerce.

9824

CSO: 3419/473

BRIEFS

BENIN ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHED--On 2 and 3 January 1984, the constituent congress of the Benin Islamic Union was held in the precincts of the Coulibaly Technical College. The congress, which was solemnly opened by the Atlantic prefect, Comrade Soule Dankoro, gathered around the Djamiou imams of Porto-Novo, Cotonou, Athieme, Abomey, Parakou and Natitingou more than 200 faithful of both sexes from our six provinces. During the 48 hours that their meetings lasted, the congress members gave particular attention to the role which the Muslim community can play in the development process under way in our country, the Popular Republic of Benin. Consequently, they decided unanimously to establish a mass denominational organization, termed the Benin Islamic Union. (UIB) Open to all Muslims, male and female, the UIB sees itself above all as a means to emancipation of the national Muslim community, strictly respecting the laws in force in our country, so that it can make an effective and positive contribution to the process under way since 26 October 1972. [Excerpt] [Cotonou BENIN-PRESSE-INFORMATION in French No 323, 3 Feb 84 p 12] 9824

FRG ROAD COOPERATION REPORTED--Cotonou. A ceremony marking the completion of the one hundredth kilometer in the establishment of rural roads in the Atlantic province last 13 January brought together the political and administrative authorities of the province, the population, and the German and Beninese technicians and experts. As a matter of fact, according to the head of the German mission with CARDER Atlantic, Gunter Dresrusse, technical cooperation between Benin and the FRG has been in effect in this area since 1976 and this has resulted in the delivery of the first 100 km stage in completed roads. Intergovernmental negotiations are in progress between the two countries for further financing which would make it possible to complete altogether between now and 1990 the remaining 400 kms already planned. [Excerpts] [Cotonou BENIN-PRESSE-INFORMATION in French No 321, 20 Jan 84 p 12] 9824

CSO: 3419/473

JOINT COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ALGERIA

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 23 Feb 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Socialist Ethiopia and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria yesterday signed a five-year agreement providing for joint cooperation ventures in the economic, technical and cultural fields of endeavour.

The agreement, which was signed by the foreign ministers of the two countries, paves the way for the establishment of a joint commission that would supervise the implementation of the accord.

Speaking at the end of the signing of the agreement at Bole International Airport, Comrade Goshu Wolde, Foreign Minister and COPWE Central Committee member, noted that special significance is attached to the agreement signed following the visit of Dr. Ahmed Talib Ibrahim, polit bureau member of the Algerian Liberation Front (FLN) and Foreign Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, for it was the first of its kind intended to force closer relations between the two countries.

In a statement prior to departure, Dr. Ahmed Talib Ibrahim declared that he was very much satisfied with the constructive and fruitful talks he had earlier with Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, as well as with the views he exchanged with Comrade Goshu Wolde.

Explaining that the talks he had with Ethiopian officials during his working tour to Socialist Ethiopia have helped to create conducive atmosphere for forging closer relations and for launching joint projects Dr. Ibrahim emphasized that the two countries have agreed to make unreserved efforts to enable the Organization of African Unity become influential on the international scene.

Algeria will do all it can to translate this agreement into account for it gives priority to strengthening relations with Ethiopia, Dr. Ibrahim noted.

The Algerian Foreign Minister also expressed confidence that the common anti-imperialist stand of Ethiopia and Algeria and the common policy they pursue towards strengthening the OAU, will further strengthen their relations.

The Algerian delegation led by Dr. Ahmed Talib Ibrahim was seen off at Bole International Airport by Comrade Goshu Wolde and officials of the Algerian Embassy in Ethiopia. (ENA)

YOUTH WEEK BEING OBSERVED THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 26 Feb 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Living Up To the Challenge"]

[Text] Youth Week is being observed throughout Revolutionary Ethiopia and in those countries where Revolutionary Ethiopia Students Associations have been established. The festival is organized under the theme "Youth For Peace, National Freedom, Social Development and Progress". According to the Revolutionary Ethiopia Youth Association (REYA), the event is meant to acquaint the nation's youth at home and abroad with objective local and international situation and prepare them for further struggle.

The importance of the Youth Week can be gauged from the fact that it is being organized at a time when the youth of Socialist Ethiopia have massively and voluntarily registered for the National Military Service which will enable them to grow as physically fit citizens with mental agility and revolutionary discipline. The response of the youth to the National Military Service is a testimony to their determination and readiness to make whatever sacrifices are needed on their part to safeguard the popular revolution and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Motherland.

That the Youth Week is being observed when the country is making hectic preparations for the formation of the Workers Party of Ethiopia and for the celebrations of the Tenth Anniversary of the popular revolution makes the event all the more important. There is today a phenomenon that cannot be underestimated. It is the revolutionary fervour of the youth which is pervading the whole society struggling to build a new society.

The role of the youth in the revolutionary process has been highly laudable. This role became wholly manifest ten years ago this month when the masses, including young workers, students and others fearlessly demonstrated to manifest their protest against the then existing feudo-bourgeois regime and for the establishment of a new society based on equality, justice, freedom and democracy. The fruits of the outcome of this struggle are being fully enjoyed by the youth of Ethiopia.

It is not for the first time that a Youth Week has been organized under the auspices of REYA which has today earned recognition as a military

anti-imperialist force struggling for the maintenance of world peace and against the arms race. The voice of the Ethiopian youth is today being echoed in the forum of the World Federation of Democratic Youth representing the entire progressive and democratic young people of the world. The Ethiopian youth are committed to the principles of proletarian internationalism which is the hallmark of the policy of the World Federation of Democratic Youth.

Holding to a national Youth Week is an important occasion for young people to rededicate themselves to the cause of building a socialist society under the leadership of a vanguard party. It is also an occasion when the youth, through exchange of experience, prepare for intensifying the class struggle. The Youth Week is a permanent feature in many socialist countries not only to mobilize the younger generation for accomplishing popular tasks but also for demonstrating solidarity with the youth struggling to overthrow the yoke of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism. The solidarity of the Ethiopian youth with their struggling counterparts throughout the world will be an instrument to encourage the latter to score one victory after another.

The participation of the Ethiopian youth in nation building has been voluntary, enthusiastic and dynamic. They have contributed substantially not only for the achievements of the goals of the National Literacy Campaign but also for transforming the life of the rural population through socio-economic activities which have been rated as highly commendable. The Revolutionary Government and COPWE have consistently given REYA all the support it needed to undertake tasks which have resulted in a number of pulsating activities throughout the length and breadth of the country.

Being an integral part of the world revolutionary youth movement, it is imperative that the Youth Week should devote part of its programmes to preparing the Ethiopian youth to effectively participate in the forthcoming World Youth Festival. The struggle of the youth at home to build a socialist society is definitely being augmented by colleagues who are pursuing their studies abroad. The commitment of the youth is an important factor to advance the revolutionary process. The Youth Week will be yet another manifestation of the resolve of the younger generation to make their invaluable contribution to the attainment of the political, ideological, organizational and socio-economic objectives of the revolution.

CSO: 3400/777

BRIEFS

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR HANOI--A delegation led by Comrade Aklu Girgire, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, yesterday afternoon left for Hanoi on a three-week study tour to gather useful experience with regard to the construction of socialist economy in rural Ethiopia. The team composed of members from the offices for organizing peasants associations under regional offices of the Ministry of Agriculture, will avail itself of the opportunity to exchange views with Vietnamese counterparts on organizing peasants and will tour collective farms. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 23 Feb 84 p 1]

JAPANESE AID FOR AGRICULTURE--Japan will provide a grant to Ethiopia amounting to 3,156,522 birr to be used for agricultural development. This is contained in an agreement signed here yesterday between Comrade Tekola Dejene, Minister of Agriculture and COPWE Central Committee member, and Ambassador Sukeihiro Enomoto of Japan to Socialist Ethiopia, on behalf of their respective governments. The grant was made in accordance with the 1980 food aid convention which is part of Japan's economic cooperation with Ethiopia. Speaking at the ceremony held at the Ministry of Agriculture, Comrade Tekola stressed the importance of the grant in view of the co-operation of the two countries in the agricultural sphere. Ambassador Enomoto on his part noted the bright prospects for further enhancing the co-operation between Socialist Ethiopia and Japan in the economic sphere. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 22 Feb 84 p 1]

SWEDISH AID FOR CONSTRUCTION--The Swedish government has undertaken to provide a 974,000 birr assistance to the Ministry of Construction for the manufacture of brick-like blocks without cement. An agreement to this effect was signed recently by Comrade Abebe Muluneh, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Construction, and Ambassador Nils Gunnar Revelius of Sweden. Possibilities of manufacturing the brick-like blocks without cement have been under study since the last eight years and hopes are high that the product would be commercially viable within the next two years. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 26 Feb 84 p 1]

RRC CONCLUDES AGREEMENT--The Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) has concluded an agreement with the welfare organization known as Norchurch Aid that would enable it secure assistance amounting to 400,000 birr. The welfare organization agreed to help the RRC transport 31,974 quintals of food

and daily food supplies from main depots to distribution centres in aid of compatriots affected by natural and man-made calamities in Erero and Borena provinces of Sidamo region. The organization is known for its valuable assistance particularly in drilling water wells in Bale, Gondar and Sidamo regions. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 26 Feb 84 p 8]

FRG DONATION FOR REFUGEES--The government of the Federal Republic of Germany has donated 2.1 million Deutsch Marks (around 1,634,877 birr) for the rehabilitation of Ethiopian refugees returning from neighbouring countries. The disclosure about the FRG donation to the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission was made by Mr. C. Mitchell, Deputy regional liaison representative for Africa, according to the RRC. Of the total donation, 1,089,918 birr is earmarked for relief and the balance for rehabilitation. The RRC further disclosed that the government of the Federal Republic of Germany has also donated 2,500 tons of wheat and allocated 194,628 birr to assist the government of Socialist Ethiopia and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in their joint effort at providing emergency relief assistance to the recent influx of Sudanese refugees in Illubabor region. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 25 Feb 84 p 1]

HAILE-MARIAM MESSAGE--Comrade Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, has sent a special message to the party general secretaries of socialist countries. The message is to be delivered by Comrade Fisseha Desta, Assistant Secretary-General of the PMAC and COPWE Executive Committee member, who left for Berlin here yesterday on the first leg of his mission which will also take him to Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania and Poland. Comrade Fisseha was seen off at the head of a four-man delegation by Comrade Legesse Asfaw, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member, Comrade Teke Tulu, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Central Committee member, Comrade Fisseha Geda, Commissioner of the Ethiopian Tourism Commission and COPWE Central Committee member, Comrade Bizuayehu Alemayehu, COPWE Central Committee Alternate member and Deputy Head of COPWE Central Committee's Administration, Justice and Defense Department, as well as by the ambassadors of the six socialist countries. Comrade Fisseha Desta said on departure from the Airport that, besides delivering Comrade Chairman Mengistu's special message, the delegation will hold talks on the strengthening of relations between COPWE and the parties of the six socialist countries and exchange views with a view to the mutual enrichment of experiences. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 26 Feb 84 p 1]

EXCHANGE OF NOTES WITH JAPAN--An exchange of notes was signed here yesterday between the governments of Socialist Ethiopia and Japan providing for the extension by the latter of a grant in the amount of 392,366,000 yen (equivalent to 3,265,292 birr). The grant represents part of Ethiopia's annual repayments to Japan under existing credit agreements. The exchange of notes was signed by Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, Minister of Finance and COPWE Central Committee member, and resident ambassador Suketaro Enomoto of Japan, on behalf of their respective governments. The grant, which is the fifth of its kind, was in accordance with the March, 1978, resolution of the ninth special session of

the trade and development board of the UN conference on trade and development regarding debt relief to be accorded to developing countries. The proceeds of the grant are to be used to finance the purchase of equipment needed for socio-economic development. Comrade Tesfaye Dinka availed himself of the occasion to express gratitude for Japan's similar gesture in the past and said the latest grant will be channelled towards the realization of development objectives. The Minister noted that there still remain broader areas of cooperation and collaboration between the two countries and gave assurance of the judicious use of the latest Japanese grant. Ambassador Enomoto on his part stated that efforts continue to be made to strengthen the long-standing ties between Ethiopia and Japan. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 24 Feb 84 pp 1, 6]

INCREASE IN COFFEE PRODUCTION--A notable rise in coffee production has been registered by the South-Western Agricultural Development Unit because of the effort exerted by agricultural workers in connection with the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Ethiopian Revolution and the formation of the Workers Party of Ethiopia. Comrade Mandefro Gebru, General Manager of the South-Western Agricultural Development Unit, said that the unit is presently managing in a modern way a total of 6009 hectares of coffee plantation. He pointed out that because of the laudable efforts made by the workers of the unit in renewing old coffee trees, using herbicides and fertilisers and channeling river water to the plantation through irrigation canals, a record high production target had been attained this year. The high-level team of government officials later went on a tour of inspection of plantations in Limu Gumer and Limu Kossa to assess working condition and results in production. Monday, the high-level team of government officials visited the Goma Hulet Coffee Development Project, the Abiot Firee Peasants' Producers Co-operative and three other producers' co-operatives in Mana district of Jimma province. During their tour of the Goma Hulet Coffee Development Project, the team was briefed on its activities by the acting head of the project. The project covers 719 hectares with a yield of 7.2 quintals per hectare. To increase production, improved coffee seedlings have been planted on 392 hectares over the last three years. It was pointed out that 1,926 washed and 600 unwashed quintals of coffee had been produced from the project this year. (ENA) [Excerpt] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 22 Feb 84 pp 1, 5]

CSO: 3400/777

GERMAN AID FOR PORT DEVELOPMENT REPORTED

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 20 Feb 83 pp 1, 2, 6

[Excerpts] Three southeastern ports (Manakara, Mananjary and Tolagnaro) received large shipments of port equipment last week, the fruit of bilateral cooperation between Madagascar and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Minister Bedo Joseph (Transport, Supply and Tourism) delivered an important address on the occasion telling of the importance of maritime traffic in a country (which is also an island) such as Madagascar. Other officials were also present: members of the Supreme Revolutionary Council Razanabahiny Marojama and Marson Max, ministers Georges Ruphin (Labor) and Rakoto Ignace (Higher Education) and the West German ambassador to Madagascar, Karl Heinz Rouette. The aid amounts to 895 million Malagasy francs in goods and a loan from the KFW [Reconstruction Credit Bank] at a particularly low interest rate (about 2 percent) and a very long repayment period, a true gift!

The West German gift is all the more appreciated by Madagascar because, as emphasized by Minister Bedo Joseph, in Manakara, development of our international trade must begin with improvement of maritime service. As some know and as the chief of state recently pointed out, the latter is part of the current government plan through what is now called "outrageous exports." Bedo Joseph illustrated this policy at the southeastern port by an English saying that over the centuries contributed to the prosperity of England, an island like ours: "Trade follows the flag."

Whence the extreme need for adequate port facilities. "Cumbersome" goods (which are nevertheless vital to Madagascar) are shipped by water, both with respect to imports (oil products, building materials, raw materials, and so on), as well as exports (coffee, cloves, pepper, chromite, sisal). This is true on the international and national levels also, with coastal trade. Bedo Joseph referred to the "inadequacy and insufficiency of other means of transport" (but obviously of communications also), nothing that the system thus constitutes "the prime type of transport for basic products" in Madagascar.

Minister Bedo Joseph also recalled Malagasy policy on maritime transport. The latter mainly has to do with expansion of the fleet available to national ocean shipping companies. He pointed to the "considerable efforts" made in

recent years in the field. From 1977 to 1980, the fleet received eight new units, including two ocean-going vessels and six for coastal trade. This action could only be complete and effective with the modernization of existing port structures. Bedo Joseph was categorical: "Not only are our port facilities outdated and poorly adapted to the evolution of ocean shipping techniques, but they are also poorly equipped." For all these reasons and more, one can understand Madagascar's satisfaction with this (most recent) gesture by the Federal Republic of Germany, which involves a sum of 5 million marks, or some 895 million Malagasy francs. In the eyes of the Malagasy Government, it is a "major, cardinal fact that must be emphasized and properly pointed out."

Three ports in the southeastern region of the country benefited from this new demonstration of German-Malagasy cooperation. For Manakara, a 20-ton mobile crane, two 3-ton forklifts, two 56-hp tractors, a sheet metal roller, sheet metal folder, and a welding and lighting generator are included, along with spare parts. Mananjara received a 12-ton mobile crane and the same type of equipment as that obtained by Manakara. Tolagnaro received the same type of equipment except that it received two 6-ton mobile cranes, three 3,000-kg forklifts and three 56-hp tractors. The three ports will also receive barges as part of the German-Malagasy agreement. Bedo Joseph announced their delivery by year's end!

Madagascar's needs still remain enormous in this precise area of port equipment. Even more serious problems exist elsewhere than in these three beneficiaries of the West German gifts. But as Bedo Joseph revealed last week in Manakara, these three port cities deserved the gifts (shouts of joy from the crowd). In other words, it is up to the other lighterage companies, local authorities and (why not?) producers in the different regions to prove themselves if they also want to be supported in the future. Bedo Joseph also spoke of the "fight against vandalism that should be waged." He assured lighterage companies that the availability of such equipment does not mean "layoffs, but relief for the dock workers in the hard work they do in the absence of adequate equipment of this size."

11,464

CSO: 3419/477

JAPANESE AID PROJECTS, GIFTS REPORTED

Japanese Aid to Rice Growing

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 16 Feb 84 pp 1-2

[Excerpts] President Didier Ratsiraka constantly recommends increased agricultural production in general and rice production in particular.

Many efforts have been made in this direction and the year 1983 was labeled as the *Taona Zina* or the Year of Production.

"The greatest country in the year 2000 will be the one achieving food self-sufficiency while exporting the surplus," President Ratsiraka said.

Since the beginning of the month, two Japanese experts have been visiting the administrative districts of Toamasina, Mahajanga and Antananarivo to familiarize Malagasy technicians with the use of herbicides which that country has just given us. They are Dr Hirano from Sumitomo-Chemical and Mr Ogawa from Hokko-Chemical. Both explained the use of the antibiotic fungicide known as Kasumin, the insecticide Sumithion and the combined fungicide-antibiotic-insecticide called Sumicidin. Why were these three districts chosen?

It should first of all be noted that these two officials are giving training to technicians from the Agricultural Extension Directorate and the Agricultural Supply Directorate of the Ministry of Agricultural Production and Agrarian Reform.

The choice of Mahajanga is justified by the location of the areas cultivated by FIFABE [expansion unknown]. The training seminar was held in the chief town of that district on 13 February.

Madagascar's bread basket, Toamasina must not be neglected, which is why the first seminar was held on 10 February. Finally, regarding Antananarivo, the seminar was held in Nanisana yesterday.

Another example of Japanese-Malagasy cooperation has thus just been given.

Actually, the herbicides improve the growth of rice while killing insects and increasing yield per hectare. It should be emphasized that the two

companies, Sumitomo-Chemical and Hokko-Chemical, did not stop with these preliminary seminars. Rather, they presented their products to the Ministry of Agricultural Production and Agrarian Reform. Some 700 tons of the herbicides were given to Madagascar free by the companies, enough to cover a large area of rice paddies. "Madagascar is a great country that could produce a great deal of rice, but the technicians must be able to train growers in the use of the herbicides. Actually, a good harvest can only be obtained when one takes care of the rice shoots from seeding to harvest," we were told yesterday by the two officials. According to them, it was because of their awareness of the effort made by the Malagasy Government to produce rice and the danger of famine threatening humanity that the two companies (Sumitomo-Chemical and Hokko-Chemical) decided to make the gift of 700 tons of herbicides to Madagascar. "We are certain that thanks to the serious attitude of the Malagasy officials, your country will be able to improve its yield and even achieve self-sufficiency."

New Buses in Antananarivo

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 20 Feb 84 p 2

[Excerpt] On the occasion of the first use of 33 large buses in the capital, joining the pool of 22 other Isuzu vehicles, all presented by the Japanese Government to the village of Antananarivo, Ambassador Furusawa hosted a cocktail party at his Ivandry residence. Several high local and foreign officials were present at the charming reception Saturday, including members of the Supreme Revolutionary Council Richard Andriamanjato, Razanabahiny Marojama and Arsene Ratsifehera, Minister Rakotovao-Andriantiana and several elected officials from the capital, including deputies Monja Jaona and Odon Rafenoarisoa.

It should be recalled that these 55 Antafita buses represent Japan's response to the Malagasy Government's request to improve public transportation in the city of Antananarivo. Insofar as possible, the technical design of the buses was adapted to local road conditions. Large shipments of spare parts were also graciously furnished by the Japanese Government, with two repair trucks. Their total cost, including transport from Mahajanga to Antananarivo, was over a million Malagasy francs.

11,464

CSO: 3419/477

BRIEFS

MALI JOINS UMOA--Bamako (AFP)--Some 22 years after leaving the franc zone in March 1962, Mali signed an agreement confirming its membership in the UMOA [West African Monetary Union] on 17 February 1984; thus making its official return to the African monetary zone tied to the French franc. The principle of reintegration was agreed upon in October 1983 during the summit of West African heads of state in Niamey, after long, hard negotiations between Mali and its prospective partners; there was joint pressure from the IMF and France. For a long time, one obstacle to Mali's reintegration into the West African monetary community was its border dispute with Upper Volta, a neighbor. This conflict still has not been settled; however, since Capt Thomas Sankara came to power in Ouagadougou, he has been more favorably disposed to Mali, according to some observers. Nevertheless, Mali must reintroduce the CFA franc--replacing the present Mali franc--before the agreement goes into effect fully. No date has been set so far for this currency change which creates a climate of uncertainty. Since 1967, parity has been 2 Mali francs to 1 CFA franc. The reinstatement of the CFA franc will mean a 50 percent drop in the monetary value of all prices and wages. [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 19-20 Feb 84 p 4] 9479

CSO: 3419/487

MOZAMBIQUE

PROJECTED PORT EXPANSION TERMED URGENT NEED

Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese 4 Mar 84 pp 30-35

[Article by Filipe Ribas: "Investment in the Future of the Region"]

[Text] Of the six ports contemplated in the projects of the SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference], the port of Maputo handles the greatest volume of freight. About 60 percent of the traffic is international, in transit to and from South Africa, Swaziland, Botswana, Lesotho, Zambia and Zimbabwe. This fact dictated that priority be given to the development of the port. Within this context, the transport system which converges on the port of Maputo has also benefitted from a series of projects to bring about greater efficiency.

The port of Maputo is a general cargo port, with some specialized facilities for handling specific cargo, such as the sugar, coal, container, steel, citrus fruit and fuel quays. Its installed capacity is 14 million tons per year, of which only about 30 percent is being used at this time.

The major reason for this low figure is the continuing decline in shipments from South Africa, as well as a number of conditions imposed on southern Africa by the war situation. Since the port of Maputo was tailored to the South African economy and later adapted to the Rhodesian economy, and is still shaped to this end, it has naturally felt the effects of the political changes that came with Mozambique's independence.

Despite this situation, the growth of shipping by Mozambique and some other member countries of the SADCC justifies a certain volume of investments, to adapt the port to new directions. Hence, although its capacity of 14 million tons per year is not now fully exploited, the project of the SADCC Transport and Communications Commission will enable it to handle 20 million tons per year by 1990.

It is even expected that the volume of South African shipping will be increased, "considering the progress of the discussions recently initiated between the two countries," we were told by Dr Francisco Ilidio Diniz, director of the port of Maputo. "We used to handle 6 million tons of South African freight per year, but now it is about 1.5 million tons. In the regional context, we feel this is normal, even though we feel that economic factors should be put above everything else," he added.

Better Equipment

Regarding the development of the port to meet the newest demands in cargo handling, the project for the container and coal quays is going forward. In addition, there are a series of projects to make the port more efficient.

"We are aware of the problems with equipment, but the improvements will have to be made in collaboration with the users; efficiency will depend on our cooperation with the port's users," said the port director, speaking of future plans.

As an example of cooperation with users, the Maputo port director cited the case of sugar. The port was handling 500,000 tons. This project was successful, thanks to the involvement of the users. Also in this context, Dr Dinis added: "We think it is possible to revitalize the port, because there is enough traffic. This revitalization presupposes that the port will be used."

Regarding operations and equipment, the port of Maputo has 3 tugboats, 3 support craft, 80 cranes and 120 pieces of various movable equipment. This equipment has already been well used, so a basic concern of the port authorities is to insure improved [maintenance].

To this end, a maintenance agreement was recently signed with the Portuguese firm MAGUE, to insure the functioning of the cranes supplied by MAGUE. A contract has also been signed with the FRG firm MAN, to help maintain the cranes which it produced.

Regarding equipment, we note the completion of the new facilities for handling citrus fruit, an investment in which the principal client, Zimbabwe, shared. The port of Maputo has new cold storage facilities for the citrus harvest campaign, which will begin in about a month.

In the general cargo quays, the basic concern at this time is to maintain a certain level of operationality. This goal is closely linked to good maintenance of the equipment in this area of the port.

Containers, Cargo of the Future

"The port of Maputo must be competitive in terms of price; hence we must adapt it to the cargo with the most assured future, such as containerized cargo and coal," Dr Diniz explained, regarding the modernization of the port.

Actually, given the security of travel and ease of handling, containerized cargo has become the best method of shipping in recent times. Containerization facilitates rail transport, because the containers are suitable for loading on the cars, for storage at the docks and for stowage on the ships themselves.

The container quay currently handles 16,000 tons per year, and the goal is to reach 84,000 tons per year. This project will be executed in phases; the first goal will be 30,000 tons and then there will be gradual increases until the desired tonnage is reached.

To this end, along with various highway transportation equipment, two new cranes were recently purchased, which are already at the port of Maputo.

In addition, a contract has been signed for the administration of the container quay, involving the British port of Liverpool.

Another project of great importance to the development of the port of Maputo has to do with the coal quay in the Matola zone. The mineral ore quay of Matola is to be converted and adapted to handling coal. The conversion process has already begun. In a first phase, the plan is to handle 2 million tons of coal per year, and 5 million tons later on.

Obviously, to achieve these two goals, it is very important that the users share in the investments. If they are realized within the period planned, it will mean a great reduction in the shipping costs which the coal exporters are faced with at this time.

Despite the geopolitical situation, which has caused a decline in tonnage, the attitude of the Maputo port authority has always been to invest in and to improve the port facilities to serve its clients better. Moreover, specific measures have been taken to combat the sabotage at the port, which is a target of the armed bands.

According to the Maputo port director, the armed bands present a serious threat to the merchandise which is transported via our rail corridor. In view of this factor, during 1983 the CFM-Sul [Southern Mozambican Railway] trained militiamen in the defense of locomotives and trains.

In terms of improved port efficiency, the project for the access channels is noteworthy. Currently, the port does not receive ships of over 60,000 tons. The project involves deepening the access channels to accommodate larger ships, of up to 100,000 tons.

Renovating Transport Lines to the Port

The development of the port of Maputo is a key project for the transport systems which converge on the port. These naturally include the railroads which feed the port traffic.

The railways of Mozambique, Swaziland and Zimbabwe reach the sea via Maputo. In addition, part of the traffic on the Botswana and Zambia railway lines will use this corridor in the future, as will the Lesotho railway.

In the spirit, then, of better service to the port, the railways have benefited from projects for renovation, improvement and duplication [parallel tracks]. Renovation of the Limpopo line is due to begin this year.

The renovation program, consisting in the replacement of old tracks with new and stronger ones on some stretches of the Limpopo line, will be followed by another one involving larger investments. This is the electrification and installation of a signalling system on the same line.

Regarding the Ressano Garcia line, it has already been improved and a second set of tracks has been laid. Centralized control (CTC) equipment has been installed. This railway control system is an important step in the modernization of our railway transport system because it reduces the possibility of accidents caused by human error.

Training a Priority

The port of Maputo has 10,000 workers. Of this labor force, about 5,500 men are longshoremen and the rest are in maintenance and operations. At the time of independence, 75 percent of the workers were illiterate. Today only 1,500 of the longshoremen are illiterate.

"We have a secondary school at the port, which goes up to the ninth grade, and students are selected in accordance with professional training needs. We also have several workers enrolled in regular schools, in addition to those who have been granted scholarships by the CFM-Sul." This is the general picture of the improving educational level of the port workers, as described by the port director.

With regard to social services, the port of Maputo is providing about 5,000 light meals a day, plus 2,500 hearty soup meals to supplement the workers' diet.

In addition, all the port workers receive vacations, as well as retirement rights, free medical assistance and medicines.

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CSO: 3442/305

MOZAMBIQUE

OTM LEADER RETURNS FROM CUBAN LABOR CONFERENCE

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 2 Mar 84 p 3

[Text] Jose Correia Ganancia, assistant secretary general of the Organization of Mozambican Workers [OTM], returned yesterday morning from Cuba, where he took part in the proceedings of the 15th Congress of the Cuban Workers Federation [CTC], which took place from 20 to 24 February in Havana, the capital of that Latin American socialist country.

Speaking with the press in Maputo, the Mozambican labor leader said that his participation in the sessions of the CTC congress enabled him to learn about the ways in which workers in other socialist countries have faced and solved their labor problems.

Good Experience

"It was a good experience for us, since we have not held an event of this kind since the OTM was created," Ganancio said.

The congress focused on an analysis of the economic situation, socialist emulation, increased production and productivity for the benefit of the Cuban people, as well as the political and military situation in Cuba and in the Latin American region, with the threatened aggression and economic blockade orchestrated by imperialism, with particular emphasis on Central America.

Cooperation with Cuban Unions

Outside the congress, the OTM leader met with Cuban union leaders to sign a cooperation accord to support and strengthen the existing relations between the two labor organizations in various areas, including professional training. These contacts will be pursued in Mozambique this year, with the arrival of a CTC delegation to execute the program.

Disasters Reported

World Union Movement delegations from a wide variety of countries attended the congress. Ganancio reported to them about the recent happenings which have beset Mozambique: the material and human losses caused by natural disasters--drought, the tropical storm "Domoina" and the floods--as well as the destabilizing maneuvers conducted directly by the Republic of South Africa or by the armed bandits.

Ganancia said the OTM particularly hoped that the friendly labor organizations would respond with aid to our country, to minimize the effects of the disasters on our economy and our people.

The Mozambican union leader also noted the fact that Fidel Castro, leader of the Cuban Communist Party and president of the Republic of Cuba, had presided over all the sessions of the 15th CTC Congress, which was attended by all the Cuban political and government leaders.

Ganancio conveyed a message from the OTM to the congress delegates and the Cuban workers.

Strong Cooperation with Soviet Labor Organizations

Jose Correia Ganancio returned by way of Moscow, where he met with members of the Central Council of Soviet Labor Unions. During his 3 days there, he discussed matters related to the signing of another union cooperation agreement with the USSR for the 2-year period 1984-1985.

The other cooperation accord expires this year. Noteworthy, in addition to the multifaceted aid, including material assistance, granted by the Soviet labor unions to the OTM, is the professional training program, in which some Mozambicans are currently receiving technical and professional training in Moscow.

A union delegation from the USSR will visit our country this year, to extend the cooperation accord and to establish more areas for relations with the OTM.

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CS0: 3442/305

MOZAMBIQUE

MEASURES ADOPTED TO IMPROVE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 22 Feb 84 p 4

[Report on interview with Fernando Celestino Teovanine, of the District Directorate of Domestic Trade, by Alexandre Chiure, in Chokwe, Gaza Province, date not supplied]

[Text] The District Directorate of Domestic Trade [DDCI] in Chokwe, Gaza Province, recently outlined important measures to improve the current distribution system for essential consumer products, reorganizing the sector and consequently correcting various irregularities in the food distribution process.

Specifically, nine members have been appointed to the supply control commissions in the districts, replacing those who had made deals with some merchants to divert products for their benefit, to the detriment of most of the people.

These measures are being accompanied by the designation of people's inspectors in the commercial establishments in that district. Their specific function will be to monitor the activity of the above-mentioned commissions and to report periodically to the DDCI.

"We will also update the quotas for products allocated to the stores; many individuals were dropped from the supply system because they had been evacuated during Operation Production, and meanwhile the same quantities of supplies continue to be sent to the respective stores," said Fernando Celestino Teovanine, district director of domestic trade.

Combat Against Speculation

Recognizing that some individuals connected with trade in Choke engage in speculation, particularly in the sale of clothing, the official explained that there is a plan this year to intensify control over the sale of articles of clothing in all establishments in the sector, including the hotel industry and consumer cooperatives.

In light of the problem, and because of the constant complaints by many members of the population, in November 1983 the Party District Assembly determined to organize an investigating committee to study the matter in detail and to discuss it with the proprietors of the stores involved. The committee included representatives of the PPM [Mozambican People's Police], the Health Ministry, the Justice Ministry, the OJM [Organization of Mozambican Youth] and the DDCI itself.

One of the committee's findings was that the merchants involved in the speculative clothing sales had been ordering shipments of clothing from somewhere in the city of Maputo and at very high prices, through illegal channels. For this reason, they charged exorbitant prices for the articles of clothing, allegedly to cover their expenses. "Suitable measures will be outlined to put a stop to this situation," Teovanine guaranteed.

To illustrate this speculation, it is enough to note that a long-sleeved shirt, similar to those sold in the capital for 750 meticals late in 1983, is being sold for more than 1,500.00 meticals in Chokwe.

Disorganization in Consumer Cooperatives

Chokwe District currently has 25 consumer cooperatives distributed over various locations and communal villages; 2 of the cooperatives are in the city of Chokwe. There are several irregularities in their operations, with cases of profiteering by the workers with the collusion of the store officials.

Intolerable practices are witnessed daily in these commercial establishments, clearly indicative of the corruption and irresponsibility of some members of the management commissions, who "invent" forms of merchandizing which allow them to siphon off great quantities of goods for their families and friends.

A specific example of an establishment typical of this disorganization and abuse is the "Josina Machel" consumer cooperative, in the "Terceiro Bairro" communal village in Chokwe District.

First Commissioners, Then Members

"We have received various products, such as bread, beans, soft drinks, wine, eggs, syrups and other foodstuffs. During the holiday season we had pans, tubs, bowls and so on, but those who managed to acquire them were primarily members of the workers' commissions and their friends, plus a few members of the cooperative," said Zuleca Hassane Narci, a member of that cooperative, aged 28, a native of Maputo who lives in Chokwe.

In view of these irregularities, which have become constant and habitual for the members of the "Josina Machel" cooperative, Narci went to the DDCI to report the problem and to ask for an explanation of the existing supply system, but no steps were taken to correct the situation. Before then, she had already spoken with the secretary of the dynamization group in her neighborhood, but he had showed no interest in solving the problem.

"As soon as they learned that I had gone to the DDCI, when I went to the cooperative to shop, the workers said: 'Oh, here comes the police officer! You can complain to the DDCI, but you can't do anything about it here. Go buy food there.' They just want people to be quiet and let them do what they want," she added.

Antonio Jossias Siteo, aged 25, married, a native of Chokwe, is also a member of that consumer cooperative. He said: "When products come in they are not sold immediately, even when it is early in the day. The next day they sell a certain amount for show and what happens to the rest of it only they know.

"Besides, there is some stealing while the food is being sold. Someone may have paid the cashier for a kilogram of sugar, for example, but if the clerk at the scales knows him, he will get 4 or 5 kilograms. The cost of that sugar is paid by the people who pay for 2 kilograms and only get 1.5 kilograms," he complained.

To check out the truth of these allegations, our reporter approached Hermina Enoque Vilanculo, manager of the store. Aged 20, Vilanculo is a native of Chibuto (Gaza Province) and a resident of Javanhane. She denied the allegations: "We sell all the products to our members; we do not divert anything," she declared.

"Josina Machel" was established in September 1980. Initially it was an agricultural cooperative, but because the community needed one, it was turned into a consumer cooperative. It currently has more than 1,200 members. All the residents of the "Terceiro Bairro" communal village shop there for basic necessities.

How To Correct Disorganization

To correct the irregularities, which are not peculiar to that consumer cooperative, first of all the DDCI agency responsible for these commercial establishments must become operative and periodically send its personnel to these stores to observe their sales practices at first hand.

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CSO: 3442/304

PARTY CELLS CREATED IN COMMUNITIES TO COMPLEMENT DYNAMIZATION GROUPS

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 29 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] During the year, the Party Committee for the City of Beira has planned to establish new political structures in the communities. These will be the neighborhood party cells, organs which will complement the work of the dynamization groups [GD's].

The measure was announced by Antonio Govanhica, secretary of the control department of the City Committee, in a meeting several days ago in Nhaconjo District, as part of the campaign in progress in the city to reorganize the GD's.

Speaking to the hundreds of people who had gathered there, the official explained that the party cells will have the task of directing the political activities of the party rank and file, defining the work of the GD's, while the GD's will constitute the executive councils of the communities."

As the secretary explained, the creation of the party cells will be the latest phase in the reorganization of the GP's in the neighborhoods.

It is noted that the purpose of the above-mentioned meeting was to introduce the new secretariat of the district, following the dismissal of the previous secretariat for several irregularities in the performance of its duties.

No Work without Products

One of the problems that led to the dismissal of the former GD directorate in Nhaconjo was the lack of coordination between the leadership and the base. There was no public discussion of the life in the neighborhood by the officials.

The most serious irregularity committed by the former secretariat (a situation which is still observed in other neighborhoods) is the abuse of power. "We are finding that some community officials have become mini-"regulos" [the native chieftans once appointed by the colonial government]; they do not respect or solve the problems of the people," Govanhica said.

One of the factors involved in the poor performance of some of the GD structures is the opportunism of certain officials who infiltrated them. In this regard, the City Committee secretary for control commented:

"Some members of the community GD's only work when it is in their own interests. These opportunists only work when products show up in the stores or the cooperatives. Then they all want to 'supervise,' so they can acquire the products."

It is noted that Antonio Govanhica has been working in Nhaconjo since November 1983, heading a City Committee brigade which investigated the problems that led to the formation of the new eight-member secretariat.

At the same meeting, the official announced that Nhaconjo was the first neighborhood in this city to come under the process of reorganizing the GD's. He said the process would be extended to all the rank and file structures.

Govanhica added later that the appointment of the new secretariat would be followed by the reorganization of the mass democratic organizations.

It is noteworthy that the secretary of the Maquinino Dynamization Group has also been dismissed, on charges of irregular practices.

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CSO: 3442/304

MOZAMBIQUE

NEW LUMBER MILL EQUIPPED WITH MODERN MACHINERY

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 10 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] A new lumber mill--the most up-to-date plant of its kind in the country--was inaugurated last Friday in the city of Pemba as part of the celebration of 3 February, "Day of the Mozambican Heroes." Presiding over the ceremony was Lt Gen Alberto Chipande, member of the FRELIMO-Party Political Bureau and director of Cabo Delgado Province. He was accompanied by members of the commission and the government of the province.

The Mahate sawmill, as the mill is known, is a work of great economic value, because it represents a large contribution to the development of the lumber sector, not only in Cabo Delgado but throughout the country. Its inauguration will quadruple the milling capacity in Cabo Delgado Province and will bring in foreign exchange. Moreover, the province will no longer export large quantities of log wood, to the detriment of the national economy.

In a first phase, the Mahate lumber mill has the capacity to produce 5,000 cubic meters of lumber for export and 3,000 cubic meters for domestic consumption; this capacity will be expanded as soon as the skilled manpower can be insured.

Complementing the activity of the mill, there is already another sawmill in Cabo Delgado. Moveable, it is capable of producing 2,500 cubic meters of lumber per year. This sawmill can be transported to any part of the jungle, making use of the tree branches that were previously disregarded.

The Mahate lumber mill is one of the components of the FO-6 Project, which was initially designed for Sofala Province but, for special reasons, was transferred to Cabo Delgado.

The planning for the venture began in April 1982. This was followed, in Maputo, by the acquisition of the material needed for construction and the contracting and settlement of the Mozambican and foreign technicians in Pemba.

Construction was begun in October 1982. MONAP [expansion unknown] awarded the contract to the Swedish firm "Silviconsulti."

This sawmill is equipped with a modern production line, consisting of a horizontal bandsaw, two vertical band saws, a multiple circular saw and two cross-cut saws. Its operation is supported by a sharpening shop consisting of equipment for welding, sharpening, setting saw teeth and adjusting tension, two office files and a private power plant with two 400-kva diesel generators. The raw material for the mill is fed through a conveyor that also controls the movement of the lumber before and after it is cut.

In a message read during the inauguration, the director of the provincial office of MADEMO [expansion unknown] in Cabo Delgado Province noted that the construction of the lumber mill "is indisputable witness to the good relations of cooperation between the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique and the Scandinavian countries." Actually, the swift completion of construction of the Mahate mill is owing to the dedication of the Swedish technicians of "Silviconsulti" and the Mozambican workers, "who spared no effort" for a little over 2 years.

During the inauguration ceremony, which turned into a real party, some workers who had distinguished themselves during the construction and installation of the sawmill received socialist emulation awards, which included bicycles, a chest of drawers and sets of tables with four chairs.

In his address, after noting the historic importance of 3 February, General Chipande declared that the inauguration of this lumber mill represents part of the struggle against underdevelopment and will make it possible to produce more and better lumber, one of our country's strategic products and an important source of wealth. Alberto Chipande congratulated all the workers and residents of the Gingone and Mahate districts who had a part in building this important economic unit, "whose enthusiastic efforts made it possible to complete the project so quickly."

Beginning at 0700 hours on 3 February, the ceremony to inaugurate the Mahate lumber mill went on until about 2300 hours that evening.

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CSO: 3442/304

COTTAGE TEXTILE INDUSTRY TO BE INTRODUCED IN REGION

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 20 Feb 84 p 13

[Article by Jonas Cossa]

[Text] As part of the battle against nakedness, starting this year the people of some regions will learn to manufacture cloth directly from the cotton which they have produced. To this end, five rudimentary spinning and weaving machines, tested and produced by Project FO-7, will soon be introduced in Sofala, Nampula and Cabo Delgado provinces to carry out the program.

DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE learned from Bonni Carrier, director of the Clothing and Fabric Program of Project FO-7, which is financed by the Scandinavian countries, that a training course will soon begin for instructors to teach the individuals who will be involved in implementing the program.

"In this preliminary phase, our idea is to train nine instructors, preferably women who like to sew, who will be assigned to the three provinces," Ms Carrier explained.

"At this time," she continued, "we are training an instructor for Sofala Province, who will teach simple weaving techniques to the villagers of Mutoa, in Dondo."

It should be noted that the simple weaving equipment mentioned above consists of three parts, all wooden: a spinning wheel, a spindle and a loom.

Briefly, we can explain that a spinning wheel and a spindle are two simple spinning machines, which can be made of scrap wood. The first, more modern type is a mechanism with a wheel propelled by a pedal.

The so-called "spindle" consists of a circlet of wood with a thin shaft through its center, on which the flax, or the thread, is wound. This small machine has the advantage of being portable.

How the Cloth Project Came About

During our interview, we asked the clothing specialist how the Clothing and Fabric Program came into being. She replied:

"Project FO-7 was conceived to improve the living standard of the rural population. When we made a socioeconomic study of the population, to learn about the cultural conditions, we were confronted with a situation." Bonni Carrier paused for a moment, and then continued:

"We were told that the biggest problem they have is the lack of clothing; about 87 percent of those interviewed said that if they had any money, the first thing they would buy would be clothes, and they all mentioned clothing to us.

"At the same time," Ms Carrier continued, "the rural population was producing cotton, but not all of it was being marketed. From this came the idea that we could come up with a way to help the peasants solve their clothing problem themselves."

Carrier explained that after sounding out the people, Project FO-7 began to consult "books on traditional methods of cloth manufacture, and also to study the local conditions."

Pursuing this idea, the workers in that agency (which is a part of the MONAP program) went to work to see if the weaving techniques used by other peoples in medieval times could be applied in rural Mozambique.

Development

"With this program, we also tried to bring the women into the project, because the women are not yet very much involved in activities to improve the living conditions," our interviewee noted, adding:

"When we demonstrated the weaving techniques, many women, particularly members of the OMM [Organization of Mozambican Women], indicated an interest. We started with children, with clothing for children. At this time we have some women producing cotton thread with the spindles, and we will soon be introducing the other machines."

Carrier also reported that after the success with making cloth, "our problem is to find ways of decorating it with local resources. We are studying the feasibility of producing cloth dyes from roots and some local fruits," she said.

The simple techniques will be introduced to the people in groups, through the organization of small associations. "We have more ideas to support the development of the communal villages, but we are going to present them gradually, as we overcome the problems," Carrier added.

It is noted that the program is being conducted in the communal villages of Najaca and Mocone (Nampula Province), Matiquite (Cabo Delgado) and Mutua (Dondo).

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CSO: 3442/305

LE SOLEIL CRITICIZES MOZAMBIQUE-SOUTH AFRICA PACT

AB191520 Paris AFP in French 1216 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Dakar, 17 Mar (AFP)--In a frontpage story under the headline "Pretoria Imposes Realpolitik," the Saturday issue of the Dakar daily LE SOLEIL comments at length on the nonaggression pact reached between South Africa and Mozambique.

"This is--for the time being--the last act of the 'normalization' process which is gaining speed in southern Africa where the apartheid regime's neighbors are forced to review their policies in a disorderly manner," the paper writes.

In an editorial titled "An African Camp David," the paper further writes: "In agreeing to sign a pact on nonaggression and good neighborliness, Mozambique leader Samora Machel and racist Prime Minister Pieter Botha ushered in a new era identical--in certain respects--to the one which followed the U.S.-Israel-Egypt Camp David accords."

"The Nkomati accord puts an end to the desire of the nine states in southern African subregion to coordinate their efforts in order to avoid South Africa's economic domination," the editorial writer added. After pointing out that Samora Machel did not want to appeal to Castro's Cubans after Angola had done so, he said in conclusion: "Mozambique has chosen to come to terms with the devil. Al-Sadat's experience puts him in the wrong at the onset. What remains is to wait for history's judgment."

Meanwhile, examining the consequences of the pact, LE SOLEIL holds the view that the "Nkomati accord and the ongoing negotiations between Angola and South Africa will deprive the OAU of a topic of general consensus in its meeting. Also, the continental organization will thereby suffer a setback in its struggle against apartheid and against the regime which continues to impose it."

The daily went on to say: "For the southern part of the continent, this is an indisputable victory for South Africa. As a result, Pretoria has smashed the 'frontline' to pieces. Assured of security on its borders with its neighbors, South Africa no longer feels obliged to speed up the Namibian independence process. Concerning Mozambique, it can hope for an end to the cycle of violence which has always diverted its efforts from the tasks of development and which has included in it the self-defense reflex."

"Another consequence of the pact concerns Angola. Will the Luanda authorities go through with their talks with their South African partners, or will they continue to link their signing of an agreement to the granting of independence to Namibia?"

"The problem which remains untouched in the affair is apartheid. The prospects for its eradication have dwindled and will not be increased through international (?indignation)," the paper writes in conclusion.

CSO: 3419/530

ENVOY CONDEMNS 'TREACHEROUS ATTACK' AGAINST OMDURMAN

JN171912 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Mar (SUNA)--Moustapha Cisse, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf's envoy, has condemned the treacherous attack against Omdurman, expressed deep regret that Sudan had been subjected to this attack, and reiterated the solidarity of the Senegalese Government and people with the fraternal Sudanese people.

In a statement after meeting President Numayri here this morning, the Senegalese envoy said that during his meeting with President Numayri, he reaffirmed Senegal's firm stand toward Sudan, and its support for the Sudanese Government and people against foreign aggression. He added that he also delivered a message to President Numayri from his brother President Abdou Diouf on bilateral relations, and ways of promoting Arab-African cooperation, which have been suspended for a long time thus creating a vacuum in Arab-African cooperation. He said that in view of their heritage and location, Sudan and Senegal can play a prominent role in this field.

The Senegalese envoy praised President Numayri's role in the achievement of unity and halting disputes not only in Sudan, but also throughout Africa. He said that President Numayri always supports the OAU within whose framework all African countries must work to achieve African unity and economic, social, and cultural cooperation in Africa.

The Senegalese envoy said that President Abdou Diouf intends to visit Sudan at a time, which will be determined later, to hold more talks with President Numayri and to complete the talks they had started during President Numayri's visit to Senegal last January.

The Senegalese envoy arrived in Khartoum yesterday evening.

CSO: 3404/5

ETHIOPIAN RELIEF COMMISSION EFFORTS SCORED

Mogadiscio HEEGAN in English 9 Mar 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] MOGADISHU, Thursday--A press release by the Somali National Commission for Refugees on Monday described as "mere concoctions" reports said to have emanated from Abyssinia's so-called "Relief and Rehabilitation Commission" to the effect that about 300,000 refugees had returned there from refugee camps in the Somali Democratic Republic.

The Somali National Commission for Refugees states that no refugees, whatsoever, had left the refugee camps in this country to return to Abyssinia and the people they speak of are people under the rule of that regime who were forcibly herded into various camps with the aim of using them to solicit international aid in the form of funds, food, transport and other materials and equipment.

The statement points out that Abyssinia had been conflicting numbers on various occasions in its desperate propaganda campaign to obtain world assistance, each time the numbers being followed by an appeal from Addis Ababa for emergency aid.

"Abyssinia's claims that refugees returned from the SDR to that country are all the more ridiculous when refugees from that country continue fleeing in large numbers to the Somali Democratic Republic and other countries neighbouring Abyssinia," the statement asserted.

"This latest claim by Abyssinia cannot be strange to the ears of the world public for Abyssinia is known by the world to have a reputation for coming up with illusory sensational stories to confuse world opinion nor would it be surprising at all if they came up with yet another tactic of numbers of non-existent refugees" the statement concluded.

CSO: 3400/780

SOUTH AFRICA

IMPLICATIONS OF NEW CONSTITUTION

Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans 24 Jan 84 p 10

[Interview with Professor Willie Esterhuyse by Otto Krause: "From the Backyard to the Cash Register"]

[Text] According to all indications the new constitutional system will take effect still this year. This means an entirely new policy for South Africa, and how that will be carried out is a subject for considerable reflection.

Otto Krause has taken a look at the new political plan together with Professor Willie Esterhuyse, philosopher and well-known political observer of Stellenbosch University.

[Question] How do you see the future white policy? What will the new issues be?

[Professor Esterhuyse] The first important point in connection with the white policy is that the language boundary from now on will no longer be an emotional political boundary. There will be greater political cooperation between the language groups, and national unity will not be merely an ideal, but a reality.

The PFP [Progressive Federal Party] will be a decreasing minority party. The KP [Conservative Party] will not become a country-wide force; its influence will be local.

Another important point is that our policy will be aimed at a settlement among groups.

In my view the following will be among the most important questions at issue:

--The political accommodation of blacks outside of the independent and national states. It may be expected that the thinking on that will be less ideologic and dogmatic than in the past and more practical and realistic. That will also be the result of negotiation processes and not of blueprints thought up in an office somewhere.

--It also includes the political and social demands made by black urbanization and the growth of a black middle class. Toward the year 2000 and afterward, urbanization will be the most important socio-political problem of South Africa.

--It may also be expected that bread-and-butter questions will start playing an important role among whites. Many whites still are not willing to pay for their political security and think that they can continue to maintain their high standard of living.

--There will also be problems with respect to the elimination of statutory discrimination. The 19th century [as published] liberalists in South Africa will plead naively for an immediate elimination of that. The rightists will resist. Realistic groups will work toward an evolutionary process.

[Question] What will be the first task of our whites?

[Professor Esterhuyse] First of all I should like to mention that we should guard against fatalism when some of our plans and ideals perhaps don't work out. A fatalist attitude with respect to the future of whites in South Africa is more dangerous than the terrorist activities of SWAPO, the ANC or the communists.

Second, I should like to say that we must make ourselves indispensable to southern Africa through our ingenuity and leadership.

Third, whites will have to become much more directly involved in political questions instead of merely keeping busy with tea parties and vegetable gardens in their backyards.

Fourth, a conscious attempt by all patriotic citizens of South Africa will have to be made to build good relations across the color- and cultural barriers. This applies not only to white people but also to non-whites.

[Question] What do you think the aims of the Colored and Asian population groups are with the new system?

[Professor Esterhuyse] In my view there is a greater degree of political maturity and realism in Colored and Asian ranks. The yes-man attitude which some manifested in the past has disappeared, and the no-man attitude of others has also changed.

There is a sincere desire among a large group of colored people to make a positive contribution in the interest of South Africa. Therefore they let themselves be guided less by the aspirations of blacks and more by the interests of Coloreds and Asians.

In my view this is related to what I like to call "the silent revolution," namely the steady upward mobility of Coloreds and Asians toward a middle class status.

To put it more clearly: they are trying to immigrate from the backyard to spots behind cash registers and lecterns.

In the light of that, they will work especially toward the following goals within the new system:

--Better housing;

--Better and more education and training facilities; and

--Elimination of limiting statutory measures.

I don't expect them to come with big, drastic demands in the short term.

[Question] How will the Coloreds divide politically among themselves?

[Professor Esterhuyse] On the one hand, there will be a realistic approach especially under the leadership of the Labor Party, which means that change can only come about if there is also cooperation on certain points.

On the other hand, there will be the so-called "politics of refusal" by certain groups.

I expect the first-mentioned approach to receive the greatest support among the colored people.

[Question] What price will South Africa have to pay for the new system?

[Professor Esterhuyse] We must expect the new system to make very high financial demands.

There is lost ground to be made up with respect to Coloreds and Asians.

The success of the new system will partly depend on the manner in which community development succeeds.

In that respect the financial demands are a test to see whether the whites really want peace in this country.

8700

CSO: 3401/50

PRESS COMMENT ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Nuclear Threat

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 30 Jan 84 p 10

[Editorial: "Ad Astra"]

[Text] "Per aspera ad astra" is a slogan which has been encouraging human beings for centuries to reach for the stars. This slogan acquired special significance last week when President Ronald Reagan, the one man who has the power and means to really reach the stars if he wants to, foreshadowed the building of a permanent station in space as a first small step toward outer space.

It is striking that he came with this astral idea to mankind especially during a period when the destructive effect of a nuclear war is being brought to the same mankind through a movie, The Day After. It is so terrifying that even the people of South Africa's Nuclear Energy Corporation warn against it!

It is ironic that the technical ability of mankind has brought itself closer than ever to self-destruction, but at the same time closer than ever to the unreachable--the stars. And in the middle of this contradiction stands the man who certainly will leave his mark on 1984, Mr Ronald Reagan. The man who says that arms are peace. The man who also says that the United States is too large for small ideals.

His people have to decide this year whether he has met their expectations as president. Whether he is right when he says: "The United States is back."

In South Africa his performance will be watched with great interest since, just as is true for the rest of the world, much of our future is also in the hands of Ronald Reagan. We too fear an Armageddon. However, many of our contemporaries here on earth act as if we don't belong here.

British Film on Biko

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 6 Feb 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Albatros"]

[Text] Steve Biko's death turns out to be an albatros around South Africa's neck which cannot be shaken off easily. Not only propagandists against the country such

as Donald Woods and the exaggerated international obsession with South Africa take care of that, but also the tragic details of how Biko came to his end.

The extent to which his story affects people is reflected by the attention given in London to a play on the Biko trial, as well as by the suspicion that Sir Richard Attenborough, producer of the successful movie "Gandhi," is looking into the possibility of making a movie about Biko.

With such a film the South African Government will undoubtedly be again presented to millions of people as an oppressor of blacks.

May South Africans find solace in the fact that other nations also have events in their past which they prefer not to rescue from oblivion! Precisely in "Ghandi" the evil face of colonialism is shown! Now the same British are preaching to South Africa.

When others sin, that doesn't mean that South Africans should not do what is right. This holds in that we ourselves must show the world that we are not really unconcerned about incidents in our past such as the Biko case.

Kaunda Criticism

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 9 Feb 84 p 16

[Editorial: "Interdependent"]

[Text] President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia is wrong if he thinks that South Africa desires to force its neighboring states into being dependent on it.

No one denies the fact that they have been dependent on South Africa to some extent for many years. If that dependency has increased in the past few years, it is primarily due to the recession of the economy in those countries, as in fact is true in every black country south of the Sahara.

This is not the first time that President Kaunda blames South Africa for the problems in his country and in southern Africa in general. South Africa is a handy scapegoat for him, just as it is for leaders of various other black states.

Less and less people are being led by the nose by that these days. One realizes that the economic recession of those countries cannot be blamed solely on the world recession and droughts. Factors such as corruption, ethnic clashes, a population explosion and a great lack of skill also play an important role.

It is easy for President Kaunda to say that black neighboring states are prepared to suffer economically for the sake of economic sanctions against South Africa, but he has never really fitted his actions to his words. Fortunately certain neighboring states realize that such attempts toward economic self-torture in reality will merely make them even more dependent on South Africa in the end. They also realize that they will get only promises and arms from the Soviet Union while their people yearn for bread. Due to their enormous debt burden, loans and financial aid from Western countries are not as easily to come by as during the first hopeful years of "uhuru" (freedom).

The easiest path to their greater economic independence goes through South Africa, the country which has the best access to the skill, knowledge and financial capability to help those countries develop.

Such a development also includes big advantages for South Africa. The healthy economic interdependence which grows from that could lead to prosperity for all the countries of the subcontinent.

8700

CSO: 3401/50

SOUTH AFRICA

ALTERNATIVES FOR BLACK DEVELOPMENT

Suggestions for Multiracial Coexistence

Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans 26 Jan 84 p 14

[Article: "Homelands Are Still Only a Starting Point"]

[Text] It was 25 years ago this week when Hendrik Verwoerd submitted his concept of independent homelands to a surprised Parliament.

For the opposition party it was an incredible answer to the difficult problem of accommodating black political aspirations.

For the nationalists it was the answer: we will do for others what we demand for ourselves, nothing more and nothing less.

We can only be free by giving them their freedom.

And with that the step was set which has irrevocably established the geographical foundation of our policy.

Meanwhile four homelands have become independent even though the world has not yet had the good insight to cooperate. Another one is almost on the way, and some of them are too small to really stand on their own feet; still others are as yet absolutely refusing.

However, Hendrik Verwoerd's homeland policy has appealed to us so much in security, in certainty about the future, that we have become blind while seeing and deaf while hearing.

We did not want to touch the problem of the Colored- and Asian voting rights because that would not fit into Verwoerd's system.

Why, for example, would only black people make up different peoples and not Asians and Coloreds? If they don't have any territory, then let's give it to them; those who wanted to put truth into the system even suggested that.

The Verwoerd system, the complete answer to the problems of the country, did not make any provision for urban blacks. The latter were all in the homelands, and what we saw around us in the streets must have been merely an optical illusion.

Put in other words: they were here only temporarily.

We have the answer, don't we: the blacks have their homelands, we have their labor, and as to Coloreds and Asians, a kind of second-hand intermediate step would temporarily serve while we allowed ourselves the luxury to believe that that system is the truth--and where it doesn't fit, we try to make it fit.

But that system was not the truth.

John Vorster already started to realize that, but he didn't want to run the risk of the consequences which a public acceptance of that fact necessarily would bring along.

P.W. Botha was prepared for that, however.

He freed us from thinking in terms of a system, of wanting to find the truth merely because a theoretical approach seemed as if it contained the answers, without taking the practical aspects into account.

This made it possible to face certain truths. One of those truths was that the Verwoerd system had no room for Coloreds and Asians.

Therefore they could be included in the white part of the system. The same is true for Asians, but with respect to blacks we are still thinking too much in terms of the system.

Naturally it is a fact that a geographic foundation was laid for the policy of the country. No one can deny the existence of the homelands and independent states or even destroy their continuation unless they themselves participate voluntarily.

Even an ANC government would find it very difficult to simply order Transkei or Bophuthatswana to stop existing.

Whatever the future political solution with respect to blacks may seem like, it is certain that the geographic division which already took place will have to be taken into account.

And it is a fact that Verwoerd laid the foundation for that.

But--and this is the true difference--the homelands are no longer the answer but merely a starting point. Various possibilities do not only exist but ought to exist.

Just look at some of them:

--A confederation comes about with homelands and independent states as members together with the white/Colored state. Urban blacks still exercise their political rights only outside of the white/Colored state. This option is not considered viable everywhere.

It should of course be accepted that that model cannot be attained.

--The confederation contains an additional state, namely a multi-racial Witwatersrand, and the blacks vote where they live.

--With a stroke of the pen the homelands are made much larger, without buying up ground or moving people, and includes white villages in order to increase their economic basis.

The smallest homelands are swallowed by the large ones and even by the white/Colored state.

--The homelands and independent black states become regional governments which send representatives to a senate with a Lower House where a consociative model is built in, as in the American model.

--The confederation is a variation of the above-mentioned models by accepting Natal as a member country, a condominium of Transkei and Ciskei with its white belt as another one, plus a similar regulation for everything north of Warmbad.

Along with the other data such as Bophuthatswana and the white/Colored state, the Rand of course stands on its own again as a multi-racial state.

One does not want to give the impression here that all those are models for the Cabinet Committee which is going to reflect on the black political future--and thus also on that of white and colored people.

Not at all.

What is certain, however, is that Dr Verwoerd has brought to naught the idea of one man, one vote in a unitary state, or better yet--it should no longer be a question in our policy.

That idea is dead--just as the original homeland idea. From now on we should ignore both of them.

On Political Role of Blacks

Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans 31 Jan 84 p 10

[Interview with Professor Julius Jeppe by Otto Krause: "Options for Constitutional Black Development"]

[Text] In his opening speech before the new Parliament last Friday, State President Marais Viljoen stressed the fact that constitutional development is not limited to the white, Colored and Asian population groups. Now that the regulations for those groups have in general been approved, it is clear that a settlement with respect to blacks must receive priority from now on.

Otto Krause interviewed Professor Julius Jeppe, an expert in black politics at the University of Stellenbosch, on that subject.

[Question] How urgent is the task of constitutional enactment in the eyes of the blacks?

[Professor Jeppe] It is a very urgent matter, taking into account the fact that the political situation of the urban blacks is up in the air.

The two bills, namely the one with respect to orderly movement and establishment of blacks and the one with respect to black community development (both applicable to urban blacks), which are coming up for discussion in the current session of parliament, prove the seriousness of the government.

Furthermore, the Botha government in general shows signs of reform.

Now that the government has initiated a constitutional settlement with Coloreds and Asians, it is of course natural that it has to devote further attention to a settlement with the blacks. And that is certainly an urgent matter.

After recent discussions with black leaders, I had the very strong impression that they are concerned about the radicalization of especially the black youth and that reform in the political area has become extremely urgent, aside from improvements for blacks in practical areas primarily with respect to housing and education.

[Question] What kind of constitutional reform for blacks do you have in mind?

[Professor Jeppe] There are several possibilities. First there is the possibility of a political institution for blacks not tied to the national states but which will form a structural part of a confederate government system.

In the second place, there could be a tighter political link of blacks with the governments of national states.

From black leaders I have the impression that the second possibility is the least acceptable.

[Question] What about a direct affiliation with our white/Colored parliamentary system?

[Professor Jeppe] That in turn is unacceptable to the government and the white voting public, and therefore I do not consider that to be a realistic or attainable objective.

[Question] How should one go about achieving a settlement which is acceptable to both groups?

[Professor Jeppe] I am sympathetically inclined toward the idea of a commission of investigation into a political system for blacks. Such a commission then must especially represent credible black leadership.

It could serve as a political clearing house to define the true priorities of both parties, black and white.

[Question] What would the charge to such a commission be?

[Professor Jeppe] Such a commission would have to put emphasis on a political system for primarily urban blacks and on the socioeconomic aspects of their situation.

[Question] Black leaders have indicated, however, that a confederate setup is not acceptable to them. What advice do you have in that respect?

[Professor Jeppe] Such a commission of investigation can thoroughly consider alternative possibilities. Since it also represents the black leadership, the commission can probably come up with recommendations which are acceptable.

The advantage of a commission of investigation is that its work is generally done in private and won't be so much in the public limelight. Thus it offers a favorable manner of investigating alternative models and of coming up with considered recommendations.

[Question] Is socioeconomic reform perhaps not more important for blacks than political reform?

[Professor Jeppe] One cannot separate those two, and the necessity of, for example, the development of new towns in the process of improving black housing is an area of priority, as is also the question of black manpower development in order to meet the economic requirements of an increased rate of growth--for which technical and professionally trained people are absolutely necessary.

Also the upgrading of the level of general education of blacks is an old area of priority.

The development of a black middle class around home ownership and a greater free enterprise is just as important in promoting stable political communities. In this respect the 99-year leasehold system has furnished a big contribution. (This is something I think should be expanded to West Capeland also.)

[Question] How do you see the role of the existing Cabinet Committee in this area?

[Professor Jeppe] It is an important starting point and indicates the government's awareness of the need for reform. However, I think that the entire problem must be investigated through means of cooperation with black representatives.

The task is really too broad and too profound for a cabinet committee as such, and the lack of black participation is a deficiency.

Finally I want to point out that the political system for Coloreds and Asians has enjoyed priority during the past 5 or 6 years. It is understandable that in this reform process black problems have lagged behind. But on the other hand one should realize that the government cannot do everything at once.

On Political Future of Homelands

Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans 30 Jan 84 p 10

[Editorial: "An Early Set-back"]

[Text] It is a pity that the blame for the failure of the homeland idea in its original form now is being sought with the current leaders of the National Party. The failure apparently is to blame on the fact that one deviated from Dr Hendrik Verwoerd's plan for economic growth in, and the return of blacks to, the homelands.

But let's not forget that the original setback for the homeland idea came because it was not stressed enough in the Tomlinson report of 1956.

It pleaded for complete economic development with the aid of foreign investments and the use of private white capital. Consolidation was also a high priority.

The man who thwarted that, ironically enough, was precisely Dr Verwoerd.

Thus the blame should not be put on his successors alone. The sacrifices asked from the whites were simply too great and, moreover, the economic realities in any event made the execution of the idea impossible.

What Dr Verwoerd did get right, however, was the laying of a geographical basis for the peoples' policy which would be difficult to change--even though this means that the homelands are merely a /starting point/ in that policy and no longer the /answer/.

The general direction is toward a confederation in one form or another, with the possible future result of a federation.

But the economic realities and the slowness in pursuing that policy to its full consequences from the beginning will mean that the current homelands cannot be accepted just like that as member states of such a confederation.

Different borders, the joining of ethnic groups, etc., are possibilities which perhaps cannot be avoided.

8700

CSO: 3401/50

BRIEFS

MISSILE TEST RANGE--Capetown--Construction on the Krygkor missile test range on the Bredasdorpse coast will probably start still this year, but the range is not expected to be in full operation until about 5 years from now according to a Krygskor spokesman yesterday. A spokesman for the department of community development said yesterday that appraisers are in the process of appraising properties in the area. The various properties have been indicated and the owners have been traced. Appraisers will inspect the various properties together with the owners concerned if the owners prefer that. [Text] [Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 26 Jan 84 p 6] 8700

COMMUNICATIONS WITH UGANDA, MOZAMBIQUE--South Africa is talking very hard with the rest of Africa, and this happens not only at the highest level behind closed doors --the common man also gets to have his say. That is the deduction that can be made from two items in the annual report of the Postal Service which was submitted to the House of Assembly this week. According to it, a direct telephone service was recently established between South Africa and Uganda, as well as a microwave network between South Africa and Mozambique. The direct telephone service between South Africa and Uganda was put in by the Spade satellite system according to the annual report. Before the satellite system was put in, calls from South Africa to Uganda had to go via the United Kingdom and Kenya. It looks as if the recent diplomatic contact between South Africa and Mozambique went hand in hand, as it were, with the Postal Service's own "outward" movement to Africa. According to the annual report the "bare cable telephone route" between South Africa and Mozambique was replaced during the past year by a microwave communication system. The Postal Service expresses the hope that the quality of the connection with Mozambique has improved considerably. Thus good news for people with friends and family in Uganda and for those who hope that shortly they can call Mozambique again to arrange their vacation. [Text] [Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 10 Feb 84 p 5] 8700

CSO: 3401/50

TANZANIA

FINNISH AMBASSADOR ON SETBACKS, SUCCESSES OF AID PROGRAM

Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 6 Feb 84 p 2

[Article by Otso Immonen: "Tanzania: Aid Program Useful Despite Setbacks"]

[Text] The lively discussion about development assistance has often involved the individual flaws and mistakes of the aid program. In this context Tanzania, with which Finland has for a long time been involved in development collaboration, has also been brought into unfavorable light.

The critical observers have pointed out that the fishing trawlers are becoming rusted in the harbor, that the pharmaceutical and wood processing industries are not functioning well and that the tractors are not being used because of the lack of spare parts.

Finland's ambassador to Tanzania, Ilkka Ristimäki, states, however, that it is not a matter of a "Tanzania syndrome." Quite the contrary, Ristimäki is of the opinion that of all the countries Finland is involved with in development assistance collaboration the conditions in Tanzania are the best suited for taking advantage of the aid program. According to Ristimäki the aid to Tanzania must not be reduced under any conditions.

Ristimäki also points out that Finland has committed itself to the channeling of 30 percent of its bilateral aid to countries that in accordance with the UN classification are among the least developed countries.

Tanzania is the only recipient country that belongs to this group. Besides, the assistance policies that aim at equality meet the Finnish requirements better than the average development policies of other countries.

Illogical Criticism

According to Ristimäki it is illogical to criticize the recipient country for being underdeveloped. Ristimäki emphasizes that there is reason to reexamine thoroughly the development assistance to Tanzania after

the long depression that has prevailed in the country. It is not enough that the construction of a development project is completed and that it is thereafter expected that everything will proceed painlessly by means of the developing country's own resources. It is equally important to ensure the continuity of the project and also, when needed, to grant assistance for this phase of the project. This means that the development assistance increasingly has focused on support for import and the balance of payments.

According to Ristimäki the new forms of activity have not yet been clarified in Finland, but it ought to be obvious that support would primarily be given to ongoing projects and that overall no new projects would be started.

One Tenth To Tanzania

About one tenth of the Finnish development assistance, i.e., 110 million marks, is channeled to Tanzania this year. During the following 3-year period the country will--according to recent negotiations--receive 345 million marks as development assistance from Finland.

About 40 percent of the assistance is made up of various forms of goods and the assistance is mainly directed toward the ongoing projects.

Examples of new principles are that the construction of new wells will be reduced within the water resources management, and old wells will instead be renovated and repaired.

The forest industry will this year receive 30 percent of the total assistance. Furthermore, Tanzanian agriculture is supported through the delivery of spare parts for tractors and by sending experts and farming machines to a tractor factory founded by Valmet.

The Trams tractor company will build 500 tractors at a factory close to Dar-es-Salaam in 1984.

The gold mine project of Kahama is interesting and its profitability is currently being explored. The export of gold would improve the economic situation of the country, but the decision regarding the operation of the mine will not be made until after the investigations. There has also been a preliminary agreement that Finland will participate in the repair and the expansion of the harbor in Dar-es-Salaam. The project would improve the foreign trade of Tanzania.

Various Kinds of Projects

Ambassador Ristimäki admits that the authorities have made a mistake in the choice of development assistance projects in materializing these projects. Ristimäki emphasizes, however, that the authorities have learned from their mistakes. The National Audit Department has pointed out

the difficulties and Ristimaki says that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is investigating the problems involved in the development assistance and at the same time the follow-up control of the projects has been increased.

"The majority of the projects in Tanzania have neither been successful nor unsuccessful, but the result has been something in between," emphasizes Ristimaki.

The long-term collaboration has created a relationship of trust that also leaves space for constructive criticism. In a diplomatic way, the ambassador refuses to comment on the difficulties associated with the heavily centralized administration and production establishment of the country.

Foreign Exchange Saved

Possibly the most successful project is the phosphate mine and the concentration plant in Minjingu in northern Tanzania. Kone Oy built the mine and the plant supported by a development credit in 1982 and the project was completed in accordance with the time schedule. The production and the concentration plant have production that replaces some of the import and thereby saves some of the extremely valuable foreign exchange. In addition, the side products of the process are used in fertilizers which benefits the important agriculture of Tanzania.

Engineer Risto Salla has from the beginning been in charge of the Minjingu project. The production has been profitable and so far it has been possible to meet the production goals. It is also advantageous that technically the plant is not too complicated, so that the local population is able to manage it.

Spare Parts Are Important

Salla is of the opinion that it is extremely important for the mine to have its own functioning depot. Since the technicians are able to perform small but important repairs at the mine, it is possible to avoid lengthy interruptions in the production. This is extremely important for the transport vehicles that are exposed to a lot of wear on the bad roads. It is extremely hard to get spare parts in Tanzania and it may take months to obtain the parts from foreign countries.

Minjingu is despite everything also vulnerable. The concentration products from the mine first have to be transported by trucks to Arusha and thereafter the products are transported by rail cars to the fertilizer factory in the city of Tanga off the coast. Some link in the chain can easily get broken.

According to Saila, the activity has so far proceeded satisfactorily. The concentration plant produces 36,000 tons of concentration products this year and this amount is able to satisfy the need of the Tanga factory.

Export is possible also in the future especially now that the border between Kenya and Tanzania has been reopened. Saila predicts that there will be a phosphate crisis in the world and then the internal supply in regard to fertilizers will be important for Tanzania. Phosphate can not be replaced with other substances.

All depends, however, on whether the authorities also in the future will be able to secure the activities of the mine. The Finnish experts are going to leave Minjingu at the end of 1985. Saila considers it important to secure--by means of development assistance--the continued activities of the mine that has cost 70 million marks. The mine will probably be able to function for another 20 years if the technical ability is maintained.

Difficulties for Pharmaceutical Factory

The pharmaceutical factory that Orion started in Arusha in northern Tanzania is an example of projects that have had significant problems at the start. The factory was built in 1980 with development assistance, but it has never reached its full capacity. Last year the utilization of the capacity was only 21.6 percent of the planned level. In the production of pills the capacity utilization was 21.6 percent but only 8 percent of the budgeted amount of vaccine ampuls were manufactured.

This year some Finnish experts are working at the factory. They are of the opinion that the lack of spare parts is the greatest hindrance for the increase in the production. But if an apparatus breaks down it may last months before the exchange needed for the spare part has been granted. The raw materials are also imported. Finland will continue to support the acquisition of raw material for the factory.

The factory has an important task in that it, among other things, manufactures chloroquine, which is needed against malaria. However, the experts are afraid that the factory is representing far too high a level of technology, which is hard for the Tanzanians to maintain without outside help.

9662

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SOKOINE STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF SOLDIERS' ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 15 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by Attilio Tagalile]

[Text] MEMBERS of the Armed Forces engaged in economic ventures have been called upon to run the projects seriously instead of treating them as pilot schemes.

The call was made by the Prime Minister, Ndugu Edward Sokoine, when he was addressing soldiers at the Kaboya Military Camp here yesterday.

Stressing the importance of economic projects for the country's welfare, the Prime Minister urged the soldiers to refrain from regarding such undertakings, as pilot schemes.

The projects, he said, should not only be treated seriously "but the aim should be to help in solving the food problem in the country."

Ndugu Sokoine urged the soldiers to put more efforts in agricultural production, especially livestock development, which he said appeared to be suitable in the evergreen areas.

He said the camp's which has 1,000 acres, could support more 200 head of dairy cattle instead of the present 50.

Ndugu Sokoine said there was no reason why the soldiers could not handle more than 200 dairy cattle since they had a modern cattle dip for larger numbers.

Referring to the Kingolwira Prison Farm in Morogoro Region as a case in point, the Prime Minister said the farm had 2,500 dairy cattle whose milk fed the whole of Morogoro town.

Commenting on general shortage of essential items in the armed Forces, he said the problem had been brought about by the current economic problems. The situation, he added, would change once the economy picked up.

The Prime Minister, who earlier inspected the camp's project, later called on the soldiers to set up shops in camp's premises to serve them.

He also urged them to make reading a daily habit. The government's aim was to build an army whose personnel were not only highly trained academically but which could also handle latest weapon systems, he said.

The Prime Minister said since the Government had abolished the colonial military system which stipulated that some soldiers would not rise beyond the ranks of private, it was imperative that the soldiers took up the challenge of educating themselves.

CSO: 3400/779

NTC DIRECTOR ISSUES PROGRESS REPORT ON VEHICLE REPAIR PROJECT

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 15 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by John Waluye]

[Text] A TOTAL of 984 vehicles have been constructed and rehabilitated in the vehicle repair project launched two years ago by the National Transport Corporation (NTC) with a 112 million/- assistance from the European Economic Community (EEC).

The NTC chairman and Managing Director, Ndugu Melkizedeck E. Sanare, said in a progress report issued in Dar es Salaam yesterday that 616 units of bodies have been built on buses, trucks, trailers and wagons.

He said 260 vehicles were rehabilitated using spare parts sold to repair some 368 vehicles owned by parastatal organisations, government departments, co-operatives and villages.

The remaining 108 vehicles were expected to be put on the road soon.

The project, launched in April 1982, and envisaged to repair 534 vehicles including 200 Fiat, 187 Leyland, 22 Mercedes Benz and 125 Volkswagen transporters and construction of bodies on some 750 vehicles, was progressing well, he said.

Fifty three parastatals have already rehabilitated their vehicles under the project. And some parastatals, government departments, villages and cooperative societies have received supply of raw materials for construction of bodies of vehicles allocated to them by the State Motor Corporation (SMC).

Beneficiaries of the project who received repair kits which comprise engines, gear boxes, differentials and accessories, batteries and set of tyres include the National Milling Corporation (NMC), the Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) and National Bus Services, (Kamata).

Others are the Dar es Salaam City Council, the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC), Shirika la Usafiri Dar es Salaam (UDA), the State Travel Service (STS) and the Tanzania Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (TPTC).

Ndugu Sanare said that rehabilitation work on vehicles of these organisations were done in their workshops or in the premises of Incar Tanzania Limited, in case of Fiat trucks, and buses, and at Leyland Tanzania workshop for the Leyland makes.

Another recipient of EEC-funded repair project is the recently formed Kagera Region Transport Company (Kagera-Retco) which has received one consignment of spare parts, hand tools, tool boxes and batteries, worth 700,000/-.

Ndugu Sanare said that the project, expected to have been completed last October, was extended for one year to facilitate the successful completion of the remaining part of the programme.

To prepare ground for operations of the second phase of the project, to involve the reconditioning of the old engines, gearboxes and differentials, these components were now being collected from beneficiaries and kept ready, he said.

Ndugu Sanare did not say when the second phase would take off.

CSO: 3400/779

NEW DAR ES SALAAM AIRPORT CONTROL TOWER IN OPERATION

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 15 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by Musa Lupatu]

[Text] THE NEW control tower at the Dar es Salaam International Airport goes into operation today, it was learnt in the city yesterday.

The resident engineer of Aeroport de Paris, Mr. Benard Moore, revealed this when talking to the head of the economic affairs and planning department of the Party National Executive Committee (NEC) Secretariat, Ndugu Seif Sharrif Hamadi, who was on a familiarisation of the airport yesterday.

Aeroport de Paris are the designers and contractors of the extension project of the airport which is currently getting a new face.

He told Ndugu Hamadi that the Directorate of Civil Aviation (DCA) will from today begin using the new control tower and equipment room that is fitted with modern safety telephones and other equipment to guide aircraft within and outside the airport.

The facilities as well as a new radar were handed over to the Government on February 15, this year.

Mr. Moore told Ndugu Hamadi that the equipment room, adjacent to the control tower, is fitted with modern and sophisticated equipment. He said the safety telephone facilities have direct lines to the terminal building as well as lines that connect it with other towns in Tanzania and outside.

Approaching planes could be detected from 200 miles away by the new radar that could also detect distance, height and bearing of an approaching or leaving plane, Ndugu Hamadi was told.

Ndugu Hamadi was also taken around the new terminal building currently under construction and was told how it would operate after completion.

Ndugu Moore said after the equipment was fitted, possible problems could be spare parts and the maintenance of the system.

CSO: 3400/779

NORWAY GIVES OIL DEVELOPMENT, TACOSHILI IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 13 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] NORWAY will grant Tanzania material and technical aid worth 108m/- to strengthen the Ministry of Water and Energy and the Tanzania Coastal Shipping Line (TACOSHILI) under two agreements signed in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The agreements, one of which is primarily concerned with the development of the petroleum sector in the country, were signed by the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, and the Norwegian Ambassador to Tanzania, Ndugu Ola Dorum.

According to a statement by the Treasury, Tanzania will receive 72m/- for undertaking studies and surveys to assess the feasibility of exploration, production and utilisation of petroleum.

The aid, the statement went on would facilitate and finance exploration works required for the administration of areas not yet prospected, procurement of equipment, and the training of Tanzanian personnel within the petroleum sector.

In another statement issued by the Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD), a total of 36m/- have been allotted by the agency for the improvement of TACOSHILI.

The agreement includes technical and management assistance of the shipping line from a Norwegian shipping company (NFDS), equipment and spare parts, and a schooner on hire basis to serve between Hafia island and the rest of the country.

The agreements, both on grant basis, are a continuation of a co-operation pact between the two countries which was first concluded in 1975. Norway has assisted Tanzania in technology, personnel training, seismic surveys, and equipment under the accord.

The two countries, last Saturday endorsed minutes agreed upon during the three-day annual consultations in which Tanzania will get about 2.8b/- from Norway as a grant to develop coastal transport and petroleum projects.

CSO: 3400/779

ZANZIBAR ANNOUNCES NEW IMPORT, EXPORT ADJUSTMENT MEASURES

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 14 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] ZANZIBAR has announced new measures aimed at adjusting its import and export trade policy in order to rehabilitate the economy through improved sector performance.

The Zanzibar Minister for Trade, Ndugu Taimur Saleh told a press conference in his office yesterday that the new measures entailed relaxation of state control on imports and exports to and from Zanzibar.

He said under the new measures, private businessmen in Zanzibar would now be allowed to import certain specified commodities not requiring the expenditure of foreign exchange by the Zanzibar Revolutionary Government.

According to the Minister, Zanzibar would still be engaged in the importation of maize flour, salt, match boxes, khanga, other cloth materials, baking powder and tea leaves.

He, however, said that apart from this stand, the Zanzibar Government would not prevent any private businessman from importing the commodities provided that the Revolutionary Government would not be forced to spend foreign exchange reserves on the matter.

All other commodities including sugar cane, domestic appliances, agricultural and construction materials as well as cosmetics would be imported by individual dealers under strict supervision of the Ministry of Trade.

The Minister also said that private businessmen would also be allowed to assist the government in the exportation of cloves oil and copra.

Before the new policy, he said, private businessmen were only allowed to export fish, sea weed, mats, local hats, sea millipedes and pepper.

In order to implement the policy smoothly, private businessmen must have export licence from the Ministry as well as a bank account at the People's Bank of Zanzibar from where they would operate their transactions, he added. The Minister said the trade adjustment policy was not a deviation from the policy of social ownership of vital means of production in the Isles but that it was aimed at making various commodities available to the people through the Isles.

SOKOINE URGES INCREASED WORKER PRODUCTIVITY

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 14 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by Attilio Tagalile]

[Excerpt] THE Prime Minister, Ndugu Edward Sokoine, has called on workers in the country not to be discouraged by the current problems and instead they should double efforts for increased production.

Ndugu Sokoine made the call when addressing workers and management of the Kagera Region Transport Company (Kagera-RETCO) at Kashai, a few kilometres from the town centre here yesterday.

The Prime Minister said that problems at places of work should be regarded as usual phenomenon, adding that human beings should always struggle to overcome problems.

There was no easy way out, Ndugu Sokoine said, of attaining efficiency except through hard work. "If we want to succeed we must work hard," he emphasised.

The Prime Minister, who was responding to a report by the Kagera-RETCO Acting General Manager, Ndugu Wily Kisimbo, commended the management and workers of the company for the good work they had done. The company was formed late last year.

He said although the company started with numerous problems, it was encouraging to note that there were visible signs of promising future for the infant company.

Ndugu Sokoine, however, appealed to the workers to be patriotic and honest in their day to day work, saying that not all would like to see the existence of the company.

Ndugu Sokoine promised that the Government would do all in its power to assist the company in tackling financial and other problems.

CSO: 3400/779

UGANDA

BRIEFS

FISHING VENTURE WITH PRC--A team of Chinese experts who have been in Uganda to study how to develop the fishing industry in the country has recommended a joint venture between Uganda and China in the development, processing and marketing of fish. This was announced at a reception hosted in their honor by the minister of animal industry and fisheries, Dr Otim, at the Uganda Club. The team leader, Mr (Gu Ya Fang) hoped the proposed joint venture will be translated into practical terms adding that China is willing to provide technical and economic aid to Uganda. The minister of animal industry and fisheries, Dr Otim, said that the Uganda Government is very appreciative of what has been accomplished by the team and hoped this will go a long way in strengthening the existing cordial relationship existing between China and Uganda. He assured the Chinese study team that their draft proposals were being studied with the view of realizing their quick implementation. Guests included Ambassador Ephraim Kamuntu of the office of the president. [Text] [EA180557 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 17 Mar 84]

CSO: 3400/782

BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH GHANA OUTLINED

Ouagadougou CARREFOUR AFRICAINE in French No 816, 3 Feb 84 pp 13-14

[Article by Jean-Paul Konseibo: "Upper Volta-Ghana: Strong, Diversified Ties of Cooperation"]

[Text] From 4 to 6 February 1984, the revolutionary people of Upper Volta joyously welcomed Capt Jerry John Rawlings, a prestigious guest, great friend and comrade of the struggle, the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] and head of state of Ghana.

After his two brief stays in Po in September and November 1983, Comrade Jerry Rawlings accepted with pleasure Comrade President Thomas Sankara's invitation and paid a visit of friendship and revolutionary solidarity to our country.

We should remember that the two men met in Po on 30 September 1983; President Rawlings made a working, friendly visit there. At that time, the two heads of state had talks on bilateral relations and regional and international problems. The atmosphere was cordial and sincere. A commission was set up to increase cooperation between the two countries and peoples. This is the high Ghana-Upper Volta joint commission on cooperation which met in Accra from 14 to 18 November 1983.

"Bold Union," the joint military maneuvers, gave the two presidents a second opportunity to meet in the historic city of Po on 8 November 1983. For the first time, two African countries, motivated by the same revolutionary faith agreed, without foreign assistance, to strengthen their military cooperation by committing their armies to joint maneuvers. The objective was to defeat any possible aggression from outside. As Comrade President Thomas Sankara said, "A revolution which cannot defend itself cannot be considered a revolution." The Upper Volta and Ghanaian armies, which are struggling for a just cause without expansionist desires, quite simply intend to defend the achievements of their revolutions and remain united with all oppressed peoples. "Bold Union" was an unprecedented success for revolutionary internationalism.

Diversified Cooperation

The two leaders had at the time agreed to consult each other regularly to achieve their shared objectives; we must place President Rawling's visit of friendship and revolutionary solidarity to our country in this context. The Upper Voltan people, appreciative of such a sign of friendship and solidarity, showed its pleasure and at the same time expressed its gratitude to the Ghanaian people and its leader. This is as it should be. After the pro-imperialist coup d'etat of 17 May 1983 when the Upper Voltan patriots were driven back to Po, Ghana represented a buttress and an inestimable moral support. It is true that a friend in need is a friend indeed. The 4 August revolution was both a victory and a consolidating factor for the two revolutions.

Captain Rawling's visit to our country then came at a time when relations between Upper Volta and Ghana are in very good shape at all levels. Consequently, we must systematically strengthen these special ties for the greatest good of the two peoples and the success of the two revolutions. For that reason, the conclusions of the session of the high Ghana-Upper Volta joint commission on cooperation, which met from 14 to 18 November 1983 in Accra, should be implemented as quickly as possible. The agenda of the proceedings included economic and trade topics, judicial, political, cultural, tourist matters and other subjects. In short, the basis for many-sided cooperation has been laid between the two countries. To increase economic and trade activities, the two parties decided to upgrade the transportation and communication networks, thus facilitating free movement of goods and people. Experts from the Ghanaian and Upper Voltan Posts and Telecommunications must do everything possible to assure smooth functioning of the links and to standardize their equipment.

There is a new agreement to expand the marketing of lumber, salt and cocoa nuts to the Upper Voltan people. In return, Ghana which previously imported meat from South America can now get cattle and meat from our country. Thus, the Corned Beef Factory of Ghana can obtain beef from our country in the future.

Eliminate Difficulties

In the energy sector, Ghana is ready to extend the hydroelectric energy from Akosombo to our country. The only remaining obstacle is of a technical nature. It involves feasibility studies and coordinating the two distribution systems.

Cultural matters, just as important as the preceding topics, will likewise be truly promoted. Television programs, journalists and radio broadcasting supplies will be exchanged. An exchange program of professors, high school and college students has also been approved and athletic events will be promoted. In this context, a Ghanaian football team, the Sekondi Hasaakas,

came to our capital for several friendly games. The two countries are beginning to participate in each other's cultural festivals. Thus, the Ghanaian cultural troupe took part late last year in our national week of culture. In turn, Upper Volta is scheduled to attend Ghana's national festival of arts and culture in the near future.

After concluding agreements on tourist and judicial-political matters, the two countries decided to eliminate the unnecessary difficulties for their respective citizens. When the final report of the joint commission on border demarcation is presented, the two countries with similar political options that have chosen to live in harmony will be then able to maintain good neighbor relations free from any threat of conflict.

By visiting Ouagadougou and Bobo-Dioulasso, Comrade Captain Rawlings definitively sealed a pact of friendship and solidarity between the two peoples united by many ties; they have always maintained all kinds of trade links.

The strong ties between the Ghanaian and Upper Voltan peoples should remind the nations of our continent of the need to harmonize their policies at all levels to raise their peoples' standard of living and effectively support the struggle of the oppressed peoples of Azania and Namibia. Kwame N'Krumah, the great pan-Africanist and revolutionary patriot, already glimpsed such a vision of African unity; he devoted his entire life to the struggle for independence and unity in Africa.

Today, Captain Rawlings is the political heir of this pan-African, revolutionary ideal. The Upper Voltan people is honored to welcome this African patriot who continues the work of Kwame N'Krumah.

9479

CSO: 3419/487

SANKARA: NO CNR HIERARCHIZATION OF POWER

Paris AFRIQUE-DEFENSE in French No 70, Jan 84 p 40

[Article by J. Lestapis and Y. de Schaetzen]

[Excerpt] To help us understand the organization and chain of command of the CNR [National Council of the Revolution], Captain Sankara told us that "as revolutionaries, there is no leadership mystique, no leadership quarrels among us. To say that I am the head of the CNR, followed by Captain Compaore, then Major Lingani, then Captain Zorgo is only a diagram which the public has retained by dint of repetition and thus has convinced itself. However, that does not correspond exactly to the division of responsibilities as individuals devoted to the revolution: this hierarchization in the allocation of positions is just a bourgeois concept which we must, moreover, fight. That is why, at times, this or that comrade will preside at a ceremony, rather than another person; we do not wish to bow to traditional protocol. Moreover, unanimity exists within the CNR. As proof of this, when I was at the Franco-African summit in Vittel, comrades kept me informed by telex or telephone of everything they were doing. Although far from Ouagadougou, we guide the work which should be done here. You know, even when I am in your capital, a crowd committed to the revolution can demonstrate without mentioning my name because that is not necessary. That is very good." Speaking of Captain Blaise Compaore, state minister without portfolio, often mentioned as the number two man in the CNR, President Sankara said that, "We should know the evolution which led us to create the CNR and then this question would be unnecessary. We have long known that each of us had duties compatible with his abilities. Made strong by the knowledge of our respective experiences, we all now understand what we do in the name of revolutionary discipline to which we have long been committed. Thus, what we do as revolutionaries does not stem from duties listed bureaucratically but from a deep, intimate conviction of what we must bring to the revolution. This involves doing what we did before it became official, with total openness."

9479

CSO: 3419/487

ZCCM SHOWS NET LOSS FOR FOURTH QUARTER 1984 AFTER TAXES

Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 9 Mar 84 p 3

[Text] THE Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines [ZCCM], made a profit before tax of K7.2 million but after mineral export tax, equity levy and income tax, the company incurred a net loss of K24.4 million for the quarter ended December 31, 1983.

This is contained in the company's quarterly statement released in Lusaka yesterday.

The statement said that total sales revenue for the quarter was K348.5 million, an increase of 66 per cent over the K209.8 million achieved in the quarter ended December 31, 1982.

This was due to the fact that the average price of copper, at K2,083 per tonne, improved markedly on the price of K1,381 per tonne during the same period of 1982 as a result of the depreciation of the Kwacha and the higher metal prices which prevailed during the quarter under review compared with the corresponding quarter of 1982.

Copper production for the quarter ended December 31, 1983 was 133,908 tonnes compared with a forecast of 160,850 tonnes for the period and 137,276 tonnes achieved in the corresponding quarter of 1982.

For the nine months period under review, production, at 423,612 tonnes, was 53,178 tonnes below forecast and 746 tonnes lower than the tonnage produced in the same period in 1982.

The statement said that the production shortfall resulted from the serious constraints encountered by the company arising from critical shortages of spares and consumables and the low equipment availability.

Cobalt production was 538 tonnes, 72 tonnes higher than the 466 tonnes produced in the December 1982 quarter. Cobalt sales, at 795 tonnes, were also higher than the 520 tonnes sold in the same quarter of 1982 as a result of a slight improvement in demand.

Lead and zinc production of 3,349 tonnes and 8,491 tonnes, respectively, was 1,104 tonnes and 832 tonnes, respectively, higher than the tonnages

produced in the corresponding quarter of 1982. Sales of lead were 2,993 tonnes while 8,020 tonnes of zinc were sold.

The company recorded a profit on metal trading of K52.4 million against a loss of K34.9 million incurred in the same quarter of 1982. The net interest expense of K29.4 million was K17 million higher than the K12.4 million incurred in the corresponding quarter of 1982.

Exchange losses for the quarter amounted to K15.8 million compared with a gain of K5.3 million in 1982.

"After taking into account mineral export tax, equity levy and income tax, the company incurred a net loss of K24.4 million for the quarter, against a loss of K43.4 million in the December quarter of 1982. For the nine months to December 31, 1983, the cumulative loss was K14.4 million compared with a cumulative loss of K120.1 million for the corresponding period of 1982," said the statement.

The statement also said that during the quarter under review, the Kwacha continued to weaken against the major currencies.

The Kwacha moved from K1--UK 0.493 pounds sterling and K1--US 0.738 American dollar at September 30, 1983 to K1--0.457 pounds sterling and K1--0.659 American dollar at December 31, 1983, representing a depreciation of 7.3 per cent against sterling and 10.7 per cent against the dollar. The statement said the board of directors has not declared a dividend.

CSO: 3400/778

NATION MAKES FINAL PAYMENT FOR MALAWI MAIZE SHIPMENT

Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 9 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] ZAMBIA HAS made the final payment of K2 million for a consignment of maize which the country has imported from Malawi to cover this year's shortfall, Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia told Parliament yesterday.

Contributing to debate on the Ministry of Finance, Mr Mundia said the payment was made last week, and explained that the shortfall was caused by the current drought which had adversely affected crop yields in the whole region.

He described the prevailing economic situation as "very grave," adding that the Government had no alternative but to divert a lot of money to cover maize imports.

In January, Works and Supply Minister Haswell Mwale told a Press conference that 477,956 bags of maize out of the 660,000 imported from Malawi had arrived.

The Prime Minister appealed to the House to give Finance Minister Luke Mwananshiku and his staff the necessary backing to enable them to implement "pragmatic plans" which they had taken to improve the economy.

He commended the minister for widening the sources of revenue, thereby boosting government coffers which previously depended on copper for 90 per cent of the revenue.

Mr Mundia was happy to note that the ministry was still searching for new means of raising revenue.

And Mr Mwananshiku urged the Agricultural Finance Company (AFC) to find effective measures to improve its loan recoveries so that it could have more money to lend to farmers.

He said experience in the past had shown that the debt collection methods of the AFC were ineffective, hence the large sums of money in outstanding payments.

Winding up debate on his ministry, Mr Mwananshiku also assured the House that appropriate measures would be taken to eliminate corrupt practices by Government officers responsible for processing loan applications.

The ministry would ensure that all applicants were treated fairly and without any discrimination.

On fears by some backbenchers that the country had been mortgaged because of heavy borrowing, the minister said the picture painted was untrue. Borrowing was vital if development was to take place, he added.

Prime Minister Mundia has urged the new Zambian High Commissioner to Malawi, Mr Phillimon Lyombe, to perform his duties diligently to uphold the good relations existing between the two neighbouring countries.

The Prime Minister said this yesterday when Mr Lyombe paid a farewell call on him in his office in Lusaka. Mr Lyombe, who took off last Friday at State House, leaves for Lilongwe today.

Mr Mundia reminded him that Zambia and Malawi were trading partners. "We are importing maize from them and they are importing cement and other commodities from us."

He said it was the duty of the high commissioner to facilitate the easy movement of goods between the two countries, adding that this was a big and challenging assignment.

CSO: 3400/778

KAMANGA EXPRESSES OPTIMISM ABOUT STATE FARMS' FUTURE

Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES in English 11 Mar 84 p 7

[Text] THE Party and its Government is optimistic about the success of State farms in Zambia, Central Committee Member Mr Reuben Kamanga said in Lusaka yesterday.

Mr Kamanga, who is Chairman of the Rural Development Sub-Committee, however, said he was not happy with the rate at which the programme was going on since it was launched by President Kaunda four years ago.

He attributed the slow pace to the unfavourable economic situation the country was going through which could not allow all the farms to start off at the same time.

So far, out of the 18 State farms which the President wanted established under the K400 million Operation Food Programme, only three in Lusaka West, Mumbwa and Petauke have been completed.

The presidential directive in 1980 said each of Zambia's nine provinces was to have two State farms bringing the total to 18.

But Mr Kamanga said because of economic factors, the programme was slower than anticipated.

"I am not happy with the progress we have made so far.

"The farms should have been at a much higher level than where we have reached. Unfortunately, this has been caused by the unfavourable economic situation."

He hoped more State farms would take off this year.

He did not share the view that State farms had proved a failure in some countries and could, therefore, not be relied upon as a national food supplier.

Mr Kamanga said the success or failure of everything depended upon management and central control.

"Of course, if you have a poor management of anything, including that of a State farm, you cannot expect to succeed in your venture."

But Zambia was optimistic that with good management, there was no reason why the farm programme should fail.

The Party and its Government was determined to see the project succeed because the nation's future lay in agriculture.

Mr Kamanga said places where the State farms would be established in the provinces had been located.

"In some of the areas, feasibility studies have been made while in others this is being done."

When the President launched the multi-million Kwacha Operation Food Programme, he named 27 countries and organisations which had pledged to help Zambia implement the food projects.

CSO: 3400/778

COPPERBELT POLITICAL SECRETARY HAILS SOVIET UNION

Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 10 Mar 84 p 5

[Text] COPPERBELT political secretary, Mr Pickson Chitambala has hailed the Soviet Union for the positive contribution it is making towards the oppressed people of southern Africa and its role in maintaining international peace.

Speaking at a dinner held in honour of a visiting Soviet delegation at Ndola's Captain's Cabin on Thursday night, Mr Chitambala said Zambia had much respect for the Soviets because of contributions and sacrifices made in the political, economic and social fields of development in Zambia.

"I wish you also to know that we are very grateful to your country for her continued support towards the liberation movements whose members are still struggling to free themselves from the yoke of colonialism," he said.

He told leader of the delegation, Mr Oleg Miroshkhin, a member of the Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, that the visit would cement further the already existing fraternal and cordial relations.

This, he said, would allow both parties to explore new avenues of mutual co-operation in the five areas of human endeavour.

In reply, Mr Miroshkhin told the diners who included Ndola governor, Mr Alexander Kamalondo, that the delegation was convinced that the people of Zambia had achieved a lot in all the five areas of human endeavour in the last 20 years under the wise leadership of President Kaunda and the Party.

He noted that relations between the two countries were developing successfully.

He pledged that his country would support Zambia in all its efforts in assisting the liberation movements.

"The Soviet Union, like Zambia, is committed to the policy of peace and supporting the liberation movements," Mr Miroshkhin said.--ZANA

CSO: 3400/778

ZAMBIA

DEMAND FOR IRRIGATION 'SO HIGH AFE HAS RUN OUT OF STOCK'

Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 12 Mar 84 p 3

[Text] THE CONTINUOUS drought in the country has forced most farmers in the country to buy many submersible pumps in preparation for next year.

General manager for African Farming Equipment (AFE), Mr. Phillimon Kapesebele said that a consignment of 250 submersible pumps from Brazil and India which arrived in the country six months ago have all been bought by farmers in Lusaka and other districts.

The irrigation machinery has proved very popular to farmers in the country because of the continuation of the drought which has severely affected Zambia.

The demand, Mr Kapesebele said, was so high that AFE has now completely run out of stock.

"We hope to place orders when a few letters of credit are processed by the Bank of Zambia. Possibly by July we might receive another consignment from India and Germany. The waiting list is over 75," Mr Kapesebele said.

He also explained that the drought was particularly severe in the Southern Province where the water level in most boreholes, wells and rivers is very low.

CSO: 3400/778

LEADERS URGED TO TAKE MEASURES TO RESOLVE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 12 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] YOUTH unemployment has reached critical proportions in the country and leaders and parents were yesterday urged to find realistic measures to contain the situation.

Chaplain of the Christian Council of Zambia, at the University of Zambia, Reverend Violet Sampa Bredt, said in her address at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross during a special youth Sunday service that there was need for a totality of involvement by parents and leaders from all sectors in combating unemployment.

She told hundreds of Lusaka youths and Party and Government leaders who included President Kaunda and his wife Betty, that a combined effort by the Party and its Government and the public would go a long way in solving youth unemployment.

"People should not wait for the Government to solve the problem of youth unemployment", she said. "They should explore all possible areas where youths without jobs could be fitted in and kept busy."

The church and the parents should work together with the various organs of the Party and its Government in formulating strategies that can help solve the problems of youths.

"Some churches have resources and if tapped well, they can solve some of the problems of unemployment among the youths"

The Reverend emphasised that employment does not only mean working in an office in the towns but it includes any form of income generating field even in the remotest areas of the country.

She noted that majority of the country's youths roam the streets with nothing to do except pick-pocket or indulge in other practices that are detrimental to the society.

"Some youths have lost a sense of direction, and unless the nation combines efforts, the future of the country is in trouble."

Rev Bredt said the youths themselves should also remember that "if we are to live in peace, we should place success in its proper perspective.

"People should constantly remind themselves on how best they can help to solve youth unemployment."

CSO: 3400/778

INACCESSIBLE ROADS HAMPER RICE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 9 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] INACCESSIBLE roads in Chama district of Eastern Province is hampering the implementation of the K1.2 million rice scheme scheduled to be completed next October.

Africare resident representative in Zambia Ms Karen Jenkins said in Lusaka yesterday her organisation which is implementing the project, might be forced to continue after October because its aim in Zambia was to offer help where it was needed.

Africare in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Development would review the project and see whether it was necessary to extend the period.

In case of extension attention would be focused on the improvement of roads and additional training to reinforce what Africare and the ministry had been doing.

Mrs Jenkins said the idea behind the extension of the project would be to ensure that when Africare finally left, the scheme would be self sustaining.

The rice scheme was intended to increase rice yields and promote mechanised farming among peasants in the district.

Africare and the ministry had agreed to improve roads in the area to boost rice production.

Ms Jenkins scoffed at criticisms from certain quarters that it was a mistake to introduce mechanised farming in the area, saying Chama had a lot of potential in agriculture.

The rice scheme was initiated in October 1981.

CSO: 3400/778

BRIEFS

SPCMU OPERATIONS 'LOOK DISMAL'--OPERATIONS of the Southern Province Cooperative Marketing Union (SPCMU) look dismal this year because of drought effects, general manager Mr Thomas Mudaala said in Choma. Although the union had not yet assessed the damage to crops adverse effects were already being felt and it was obvious his organisation would be affected. "We have already instituted investigations with farmers in the region to find out how they have been hit by the drought. "I think two weeks from now we should be able to know how our operations have been affected." Asked whether the pioneer seed maize from South Africa which had met with enthusiasm from farmers because of its early maturity would have any impact on maize production, Mr Mudaala said this would be determined after investigations. A snap survey of the fields on Livingstone-Choma road showed that despite poor rainfall some farmers will have a good maize harvest. The worst drought hit are Livingstone, Zimba and a few places in Mazabuka and Kalomo. [Text] [Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES in English 11 Mar 84 p 7]

CORRIDOR DISEASE THREATENING CATTLE--Meanwhile, cattle population in Choma has been threatened by the corridor disease. A spot check carried out by a reporter showed that cattle owners, particularly from Mapanza had stepped up the sale of their animals because of the disease. One farmer, Mr Alfred Moomba from Mapanza said cattle were dying. When confirming the seriousness of the disease last week district veterinary officer, Dr Abdou Awadalia said the situation was getting worse daily, particularly in Mapanza where 1,000 cattle had died in two years from the same disease. [Text] [Lusaka SUNDAY TIMES in English 11 Mar 84 p 7]

LOCUSTS DESTROYING CROPS--KAYOMBO village 90 kilometres from Kabompo boma has been swarmed by locusts which are destroying crops. Ward chairman Mr Julius Mulaisha said yesterday that the locusts have almost converged the entire ward and were devastating crops in their way those affected most are cassava and maize crops.--Zana. [Text] [Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 12 Mar 84 p 5]

CSO: 3400/778

RESERVE BANK ISSUES QUARTERLY ECONOMIC, STATISTICAL REVIEW

Harare THE HERALD in English 13 Mar 84 pp 1, 5

[Text] ZIMBABWE's exports will expand significantly this year, the Reserve Bank believes.

In its latest quarterly economic and statistical review it bases this expectation on prospects of an international economic upturn and strong expansion of exports of manufactured goods as a result of the activation of a US\$70 million export facility with the World Bank.

It notes that the Government has been trying to stimulate a recovery in the past 18 months by the introduction of an export incentive scheme, the extension of export credit terms from three to six months, the devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar, activation of the World Bank facility and the pursuance of a policy of wage restraint to contain production costs.

The World Bank facility is to cover the import of raw materials and other inputs for export industries.

The review says the level of Zimbabwe's exports in the past two years have risen by only 7 percent in nominal terms, but in real terms they declined by over 30 percent.

The level of import allocations of the same period had been reduced almost 60 percent in real terms.

The impact of these cuts on the economy, says the bank, was cushioned to some extent by the use of loan funds to finance imports. But it notes that the import cuts would have been substantially greater if the Government and the Reserve Bank in particular had not resorted to higher levels of short-term borrowing during the period under review, October to December 1983.

The bank says that in spite of the cuts in import allocations during 1983, the overall balance of [words indistinct] deficit was expected to be significantly higher than the \$185 million recorded in 1982. The deficit had been financed by using resources drawn from the International Monetary Fund and a higher level of foreign borrowing.

Furthermore, it says, despite the recession and the weak balance of payments situation, the rate of inflation had remained high, with prices increasing over the past 18 months at an annual rate of between 15 and 20 percent.

This took place despite tight control of the money supply. "Money supply has risen over the past 12 months by less than 1 percent," which, in turn, reflected both fiscal restraint and significant success in financing the budget deficit in a non-inflationary manner.

Inflation had remained high largely due to the impact of imported inflation following the depression of the exchange rate.

To create the conditions necessary for a sustained economic recovery, the banks says, it is vital to not only reduce the rate of inflation, but also to strengthen the balance of payments position.

"Only when success has been achieved in these two areas can the country look forward to an economic recovery that will be sustainable."

The bank also says that as far as the rate of inflation was concerned, any economic puturn coming about as a result of deliberate reflationary policies would be shortlived and unsustainable and would merely result in a further upward move in consumer prices.

However, the outlook in this regard was favourable and it seemed likely that a substantially lower rate of inflation could be brought about during the next 12 months, given a continuation of the existing policies.--Ziana.

CSO: 3400/776

EMPLOYERS REPORTEDLY DO NOT BACK LABOR PROPOSALS

Harare THE HERALD in English 12 Mar 84 p 3

[Text] EMPLOYERS do not support proposals in the Government's long-awaited Labour Bill to give the workers' committees wider powers of negotiation, says the president of the National Commercial Employers' association, Mr Mike Britten.

Mr Britten, who is also a council member of the Employers' Confederation of Zimbabwe, says in the latest issue of Commerce, a monthly magazine published by the Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce, that of specific concern will be the right, conferred by the Bill, to negotiate wages and conditions of service.

"The concept is that industrial councils and boards where trade unions and employers are represented will set the basic wage for the industry and then individual workers' committees will negotiate with the management of their own organisations to establish the best possible conditions of service and wages for their members," said Mr Britten.

He indicated that this system had not been supported by employers and it was anticipated that it would lead to considerable unnecessary negotiating at individual workers' committee level.

Negotiations

He says the organisation would have to train businessmen in labour negotiations as this was something they had never done before. It was previously left up to employers' associations.

"In effect every businessman will be down in the front line of negotiation with his own workers," Mr Britten says.

Mr Britten also says that Emcow wants a closer working relationship with the Government.

He says 1983 was the first year in which the organisation was really able to operate "in the full sense of being an umbrella to represent employers to Government".

"We would like to feel we already have extremely close working relationships with the trade unions and we would like to expand this to include the Government," he says.

Mr Britten also says his organisation would like to become more involved in the problems of school-leavers left out of the labour market.--Ziana.

CSO: 3400/776

HWANGE POWER STATION'S SHUTDOWN 'HAS RIPPLE EFFECT'

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Mar 84 p 12

[Text] HARARE.--The Hwange power station has been shut down and is having a ripple effect throughout Zimbabwe, the Financial Gazette said yesterday.

No power is coming from the station and emergency measures to reopen the Umwati power station between Kwekwe and Kadoma which was put into mothballs last year, have been taken. All other electricity undertakings in Zimbabwe are also trying to step up their local power production and to shed loads wherever possible, the Gazette says.

To add to the problem, the Kariba South Bank hydro-electric powerstation has developed a fault in one of its machines and the North Bank power station is undergoing maintenance. Urgent measures are being taken to bring this station back into operation as soon as possible so that it can generate full power.

Electrical engineering and industrial specialists who know of the Hwange problem this week described them as a "hidden catastrophe," the newspaper says.

No official comment on the full extent of the power crisis has yet been made, but it appears to be widely known in industrial circles in Harare and Bulawayo among other centres.

"All undertakings in Zimbabwe have been asked to go on to maximum generation."

Industrialists in various areas said they were concerned about the problem and lack of official details.--Sapa.

CSO: 3400/776

MINISTER SAYS GOVERNMENT TO BUY, MOVE CATTLE FROM DROUGHT AREA

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 11 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by Tendayi Nyakum]

[Text] THE Government is to spend about \$28 million buying and moving cattle from drought-stricken areas this year, the Minister of Agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, has said.

In an interview with The Sunday Mail last week, the Minister said: "This will be bridging finance to move cattle from the affected areas, put them somewhere where we can look after them or slaughter them.

"That will not be a loss to us. I say us because the cattle will then belong to the Government through the Cold Storage Commission, because once we maintain them we will be in a position to resell them to farmers for restocking or those that are ready will be sent to the abattoirs and will be sold as meat."

But the CSC would not be buying all the farmers' herds. It would buy residually on a calculated basis through consultation with the farmers.

"They will look at the grazing facilities and find out how many a farmer can accommodate. If he has 1 200, and he can only accommodate 1 000, we will buy the 200 or help with the drought situation," he said.

"But at the communal sales, we will offer to buy what the farmer wants to sell in order to help reduce the pressure on the grazing area."

Destocking

Asked whether the land-carrying capacity available was enough until the next rains, he said: "Obviously in the south, where they are in their third year of drought, some considerable level of destocking will have to occur because of the heavy pressure on the grazing land.

"It is because of this pressure and the farmer's inability to carry his herd in entirety that the Government has introduced this scheme through the CSC to assist the farmer by taking off what stock his land will not carry," he said.

It was they who will decide the extent to which the cattle will be fed in feedlots as opposed to grazing land in suitable areas.

"Since keeping cattle in feedlot pens was an expensive operation, what we believe they will do, is look at available facilities and decide the best methods of maintaining the animals."

Senator Norman said the producer price for beef has been increased by 15 percent, effective from the beginning of March.

The increase would not be passed on to the consumer, he said.

"This is to the account of the CSC and it is not an automatic 15 percent increase to the consumer," he said. The price of beef was controlled through the butchers' shops by the Ministry of Trade and Commerce.

CSO: 3400/776

MARKETING AUTHORITY OFFICIAL DISCUSSES BEEF INDUSTRY'S PROBLEMS

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 9 Mar 84 p 7

[Text] A MAJOR Marketing campaign to boost beef sales locally is to be mounted soon by the Cold Storage Commission--and the CSC is now exporting beef to 17 different countries.

This was said last week by Mr Jim Sinclair, chairman of the Beef and Livestock Committee of the Agricultural Marketing Authority during an interview with The Farmer magazine.

He also commented that a number of "new deals" on external markets had recently been concluded. Some of these required a good proportion of carcass beef, as opposed to boneless beef, and this would help the CSC's throughput.

Discussing problems now facing the beef industry as a whole and also some of the CSC's difficulties, Mr Sinclair confirmed that there were some "major problem areas". The main one was the problem of coping with all the cattle on offer in the present drought situation.

Agreeing that farmers faced severe practical and financial problems when they could not get their full booking requirements for cattle accepted by the CSC, he said their difficulties were fully appreciated. Great efforts were being made by the CSC to relieve the situation, including the search for external markets despite very low present world prices.

He said a number of factors had contributed to the limitations on cattle bookings.

The first was the large number being booked in. For June this year alone 90 000 cattle had been booked but the CSC could only handle less than half that number. This figure gave an idea of the size of the problem. It also indicated the impact of the drought on producers who had to reduce their herds.

Mr Sinclair said that the CSC could increase its slaughter rates but it simply could not cope with the essential follow-up processing of the carcasses. Some abattoirs had been closed down due to "old age", such as those at Harare

and Mutare, while the existing facilities were working "flat out" and occasionally had to be shut down for normal maintenance and repair work.

He added that there was a high demand abroad for de-boned beef but while some of the newer and "world renowned" CSC factories did have facilities for this type of processing, they were not available at all the local abattoirs.

The drop in local beef consumption, he said, had also complicated the CSC's ability to handle all cattle on offer. Although beef was being sold abroad and export markets were being pursued, world prices were very low at present and the European Economic Commission had more than 400 000 tonnes in "intervention stocks" which they were prepared to sell at low prices.

"So to sum up, there have been a number of factors (some occurring at much the same time) which have all contributed to this distressing booking situation--the drought, limitations of our processing and refrigeration facilities, the change on the local (beef-buying) market, and depressed world prices."

Outlining the comprehensive plans now being made with Government backing to help drought stricken cattle farmers Mr Sinclair said that last year had seen probably the "biggest-ever multi-pronged cattle rescue exercise mounted in Zimbabwe."

He added: "It certainly, and most regrettably, looks as though we shall have to embark on similar and additional exercises again this year."

Mr Sinclair believed that cattle producers were fortunate in having people at the CSC with the far-sightedness and ability to handle the issues, as well as the CSC's facilities such as feedlots, ranches and holding grounds.

He appealed again to communal farmers to sell drought stricken cattle before they lost condition and then died.

"There's no point in trying to keep an animal alive to pull a plough in six months time, when it is definitely going to die in two month's time, for example," he said. "It's a waste of money and beef."

Emphasising that the CSC could not handle the effects of the drought on its own, Mr Sinclair said resources and facilities had been stretched by the past two drought years.

CSO: 3400/776

MINISTER ASSURES NATION MAIZE SUPPLIES WILL LAST THROUGH 1985

Minister's Statement

Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 9 Mar 84 p 1

[Excerpt] ZIMBABWE will have enough maize to take it through 1985, the Minister of Agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, has assured the nation.

He told our correspondent in an interview that contingent plans had been drawn, including the importation of maize from Malawi to meet the country's requirement. "We have maize on target," the Minister said.

Measures would be taken to increase the present maize allocations to millers to ensure that there was enough maize meal throughout the country. This would be done when the maize from Malawi had arrived and the new intake had been received.

The Government is buying about 40 000 tonnes of maize from Malawi to supplement the existing national stock which have depleted due to a three-year drought.

Sen Norman was reacting to reported temporary shortages of maize meal in some parts of the country.

Minister's Statement Applauded

Harare THE HERALD in English 10 Mar 84 p 3

[Editorial: "Just In Time"]

[Text] AGRICULTURE Minister Senator Denis Norman's assurance that Zimbabwe will have enough maize to see it through 1985 is welcome news indeed.

The timing of the announcement was most opportune, coming at a time when people were becoming increasingly concerned about maize meal shortages in some parts of the country. It is reassuring to know that the Government is not only cognisant of the problem but has already taken steps to alleviate it.

We hope the minister's words will serve to dissuade those of our compatriots who might have been tempted to resort to hoarding. It is counter-productive to hoard any commodity, more so when that particular commodity will continue to be readily available.

However, much as we applaud the minister's announcement we feel it is also important that several imponderables should be taken into consideration. We assume that Senator Norman's announcement is contingent on the fact that the maize meal will suffice if it is confined to feeding Zimbabweans only and if the millers play their role.

Lately Zimbabwe has experienced an upsurge in the numbers of displaced people. The whole of Southern Africa has been suffering from the drought.

As a result Zimbabwe has been forced to feed some of our brothers and sisters who have fled hunger and starvation in their own countries to come here. Their presence has put a severe strain on our resources, which have also suffered from the drought.

The second imponderable is whether our millers will be patriotic enough to work all-out in grinding the maize that the GMB delivers to them.

We hope the millers will do everything in their power to make sure that no Zimbabwean starves in this hour of need.

CSO: 3400/776

RAILWAY SYSTEM FACING 'ENORMOUS TASK' IN MAIZE TRANSPORT

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 9 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] ZIMBABWE'S railway system faces an enormous task over the next 12 months in transporting the maize the country will need to import to meet the shortfall in the 1983/84 harvest. About 1 000 trains will be required to move 1.2 million tonnes of maize for Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Informed opinion agrees that, with full cooperation between the National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ), the Zambian Railways (ZR) and the South African Transport Services (SATS), the systems will cope.

Zimbabwe's maize deliveries to the GMB this year will probably be slightly under 600 000 tonnes. Last year's deliveries were 617 000 tonnes which, together with one million tonnes in stock at April, 1983, gave a total of 1 617 000 tonnes. Of this, 200 000 tonnes has been exported or donated to other countries, leaving a balance of 1 417 000 tonnes for local consumption over the last marketing year.

This confirms the figure of 3 800 tonnes as the country's daily consumption of maize from the GMB. This consumption figure includes purchases by the millers for grinding into roller meal, and by stockfeeds manufacturers.

A complicating factor this season will be the unknown amount of retentions of maize by commercial and communal land farmers. With the severe shortages of maize experienced in varying periods over the last marketing year, many commercial farmers have said that they will retain sufficient stocks on their farms to feed their workers for the next year. Communal farmers undoubtedly will also adopt this approach. How much their retentions will reduce the amount of the crop actually delivered to the GMB can only be estimated at present.

The GMB begins the next marketing year with virtually empty silos, and estimated deliveries of 600 000 tonnes. The Government has announced that it has purchased 40 000 tonnes from Malawi and the British Government has donated 10 000 tonnes, also to be purchased from Malawi. The United States has donated 30 000 tonnes which will arrive in South African ports within the next month.

Based on last year's consumption figures, the country will need an additional 730 000 tonnes of maize, either through purchases or by donations from various aid schemes. This 730 000 tonnes, plus the 30 000 tonnes from the United States, will need to be transported from South African ports and over the NRZ system.

For the country's own needs, therefore, the railways will need to run about 630 trains with average loads of 1 200 tonnes. Some trains may carry heavier loads over certain sections, but in other parts of the country, trains will be limited to much lighter loads.

While the handling of maize for Zimbabwe's use will extend the NRZ, there will also be a call to carry maize through this country to Zambia. Expert opinion forecasts a minimum for that country of 450 000 tonnes, requiring another 370 trains.

Informed observers maintain that this enormous amount of extra traffic can be handled if the railway systems of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Zambia cooperated closely.

"South Africa's rail system can handle much larger loads than either the Zimbabwe or Zambia railways", an observer told The Gazette. "Therefore, the turn-around of wagons will have to be handled very efficiently if the flow of maize trains is to be maintained at the necessary rate."

One of the major problems may not occur on the railways, one expert warned. He said the only bulk maize-handling facilities in South Africa were at Durban and East London. "However, these installations are designed for the export of maize, not its importation", he said. A bottleneck could occur in these two ports if the maize could not be off-loaded from ships at a fast enough rate to keep the trains moving to the necessary schedules.

Zimbabwe's present maize stock will be exhausted by the end of April and this year's deliveries together with the Government purchases and donations by Britain and the United States, will last until November at last year's average consumption figures.

By November, the flow of imports, either through additional purchases by Government or new aid schemes, must have provided a stock and a continuing supply sufficient to meet the country's daily needs until the 1984/85 harvest is reaped in April, 1985.

CSO: 3400/776

CROP PRODUCTION CHIEF DISCUSSES MAIZE, TOBACCO, COTTON PROSPECTS

Harare THE HERALD in English 10 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] THE early planted maize has been written off in most parts of the country and some provinces are even reporting the dying of the late planted crop, the chief of crop production for Agritex, Cde Douglas Ncumbe, said yesterday in a fortnightly crop and livestock situation report.

Cde Ncube said disaster was looming in Matabeleland South where the dryland crop is now virtually a complete failure and, though other crops will be holding on, yields will be much reduced.

"There is very little bulk in the grazing in all areas with serious problems of overstocking," he said. "Large-scale movement of stock to areas with better grazing will have to be undertaken to avert a crisis."

Though water supplies are still adequate, problems could arise in winter.

Most of the period was hot and dry in all provinces, but isolated showers and thunderstorms of varying intensity were received in the later part of the period except in both Matabeleland North and South and Masvingo which received little or no rain.

In Manicaland, early planted flue-cured tobacco has grown out reasonably well, but the later crops still need more rain.

Dryland planted maize in the Eastern Districts will be down by 60 percent.

Sun-scorching in Mashonaland East has caused heavy losses of flue-cured tobacco. Burley reaping is progressing under generally satisfactory conditions.

Substantial failures have occurred in the early maize mainly due to lack of pollination and yields will be poor in most areas.

Bollworm is playing havoc with cotton which has recovered in good rainfall areas.

Cotton picking has started in Masvingo, where the crop condition varies. More rain is needed to fill both large and small dams.

In the Midlands, most dryland maize crop has failed except in the eastern, central watershed and northern areas where small harvests are expected as the reaping of the early crop is under way.

Cotton yield prospects will get a further knock from bollworm and square shed due to extreme heat.

CSO: 3400/776

SELECTED FOOD SHOPS OPEN IN PARTS OF MATABELELAND SOUTH

Harare THE HERALD in English 12 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] BULAWAYO. MAIZE meal, rice and sugar were quickly snapped up from the shelves after selected shops opened in parts of Matabeleland South on Saturday, the first time they have been allowed to operate since a curfew was declared on February 3.

For the first time since the start of the curfew, drought relief committees distributed maize grain and mealie meal to hundreds of peasants.

The peasants, who crowded the shops to buy food and get drought relief supplies, disclaimed any loyalty to dissidents and pledged their support to security force efforts to bring peace.

However, they said a major problem they had faced because of the curfew was hunger as shops were closed and they could not buy food.

Local journalists visited several centres in the curfew areas, including Brunapegi, Mphoengs, Masera, Madlambudzi and Zezani at the weekend, and interviewed some of the peasants and shop operators.

At Mphoengs, 96 km south of Plumtree, 70 50 kg bags of mealie meal were sold out in less than 30 minutes at Skinner Stores, and each bag was shared among five customers.

One customer, Cde Edward Mpofu, a father of six, said he had walked 8 km from a neighboring village.

"My family has been living on goat meat and marula fruit juice since the curfew was imposed," he said.

"I appreciate the need for security and peace in this area but I wish the Government could allow stores to operate during the curfew."

He did not think the people supported dissidents as they did not know what the dissidents were fighting for.

"Our area has been very quiet and I have not met anyone who says he has ever seen dissidents. All we hear are rumours that they have been seen in other places asking for food."

Cde Mpofu said some children had been unable to attend school because of hunger and a number of villagers had been going to the Ingwizi Irrigation Scheme to ask for food.

"Most of the time the people at the irrigation scheme had nothing to sell but on occasions they sold each person one cob of maize."

At Brunapeg, 18 km east of Mphoengs, Sangulube Stores sold 180 bags of mealie-meal and hundreds of bags of maize grain and mealie-meal were distributed by the drought relief committee.

At Zezani, about 600 people cheered and ululated as three DDF lorries delivered 456 bags of maize on Saturday for distribution as part of the drought relief programme.

Cde Ketani Moyo (45) of Dendele village, said nobody in his area had died of hunger and the only death since the curfew began was that of an elderly woman.

"I cannot say she died of hunger," said Cde Moyo.

Authorities were convinced people would cooperate with them on the issue of dissidents.

People in one village were said to have volunteered to compile a list of dissidents operating in the area and those families with dissident connections.

The journalists' first-hand observations at stores and distribution points in the curfew area contradict a statement made by Zapu leader Dr Joshua Nkomo in Bulawayo yesterday.

He told a Zapu rally that food was still not reaching the curfew areas and that some people had died of starvation.

Dr Nkomo said if the people of Zimbabwe wanted a one-party state, they should have it, but if they did not, a one-party state should not be foisted upon them.

The Government would have to show the people what a one-party state was and what it involved and then leave it to them to choose, he told the rally.

CSO: 3400/776

BRIEFS

CIVIL SERVICE--BULAWAYO. THE inspectorate division of the Public Service Commission may be boosted to check nepotism and to control the use of public funds, the Minister of State (Public Service), Mr Chris Andersen, said on ZTV's The Nation programme on Sunday. He said inefficiency which sometimes occurred in the various Government sectors was largely due to inexperience on the part of the civil servants. The inefficiency was not a result of "lack of academic qualification". The PSC usually conducted training courses in the main fields of civil service to improve work performance. The object of the job freeze was to limit the number of appointments made by the various ministries. Ministries were tempted to try and get more staff than necessary. Should a minister convince the PSC that it really needed a vacancy filled then it would be unfrozen. The 15 percent salary increase for specialists in the civil service was taken as an immediate step to stop the brain drain in the public service. Despite the salary increase the gap between the private and public sector wages had not been bridged, he said. Mr Andersen said he would not be able to say whether there would be a general salary review this year as the Government had promised last year. This was because of budgetary considerations which had to be made according to the economic performance of the country. [Excerpt] [Harare THE HERALD in English 13 Mar 84 p 3]

CATTLE STARVATION DEATHS--GWANDA.--More than 60 000 cattle have starved to death in Matabeleland since October 1982, according to a spokesman for the Department of Veterinary Services in Gwanda. The spokesman said more than 40 000 cattle had died between October 1982 and October 1983, and 20 000 had died since then.--Sapa. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Mar 84 p 13]

IMPROVED TOBACCO CROP--ZIMBABWE is expecting a total of 110 million kg of tobacco this season--15 percent above last year's figure, a spokesman for the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association announced in Harare yesterday. The spokesman said that the quality of the crop was one of the best ever grown in the country. "The major part of the crop is not reaped yet, but it has the potential of being one of the finest we have ever grown," said the spokesman. However, some of the tobacco had been affected by drought in some parts of the country and the rain had been patchy, the spokesman added. The Tobacco Marketing Board has announced that the opening of the 1984 flue-cured tobacco auction sale will be on April 10.--Ziana. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 13 Mar 84 p 1]

YOUTHS DEMAND OFFICIAL RESIGN--Hundreds of ZANU-PF youths early this week staged a peaceful demonstration outside the (Tjiroro Dziva) District Council offices at Murombedzi in Zwimba, demanding the dismissal of the senior executive officer, Comrade (Lezwi Magebe). They accused Comrade (Magabe) of mal-administration and demanded his resignation because he is not wanted by the people. Comrade (Magebe) told the Zimbabwe Information Service that the council officials organized the demonstration. He also denied the allegations leveled against him. However, he has agreed to go on 2 months leave pending his resignation from the council. [Text] [MB160634 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 16 Mar 84]

MATABELELAND GOVERNOR DETAILS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM--The governor for Matabeleland South Province, Comrade Mark Dube, says meaningful development occurs in conditions of unity and peace. Addressing hundreds of people at (Avoca Insiza) District in (Kulimvo), Comrade Dube explained that the government has appointed governors to enhance progress in development. He said as a governor, he would listen to the problems facing the people in the province and submit them to the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe. Comrade Dube told the rally that one of the government's primary objectives was to form development committees at village level. He pointed out that the committees, which would be chaired by local ward councillors, would forward recommendations to the district council, where the district administrative chairman would pass on the resolution to the governor. The governor would then pursue the matter with central government, said Comrade Dube, who urged the people to come forward with their development priorities to ensure a good response from the government. The governor warned employers who oppress their employees because of their political affiliations, and also expressed concern at the number of complaints related to employer-employee relations, mainly because of political affiliation. [Text] [MB190626 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 18 Mar 84]

CSO: 3400/781

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